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ENGLAND AND THE SWISS QUESTION.

It is rather an unlucky thing, considering that England is to be allied to the Prussian dynasty, that the King of Prussia should always be doing something with which England does not sympathise. The other day there was the Prussian neutrality in the Russian war. Well, the King of Prussia was not bound to join the Allies—only, somehow, he virtually served their enemy. To-day he has got Europe into a high state of agitation and alarm, by threatening Switzerland; and again England is in opposition to him. As our Court must be in constant communication with him, it is all the greater pity that he is not more congenial. The Royal Family of this country ought, *avant tout*, to be English; and it seems hard, that, after a century and a half, the House of Hanover should be so imperfectly domesticated amongst us. We feel this all the more, because, if the Family were more national in their ideas and associations, they would have a better chance at home against the Whig oligarchs, and a stronger bulwark against those "reds," who find in "Germanism" the very happiest taunt that could be made against a House ruling over a nation so jealous and insular.

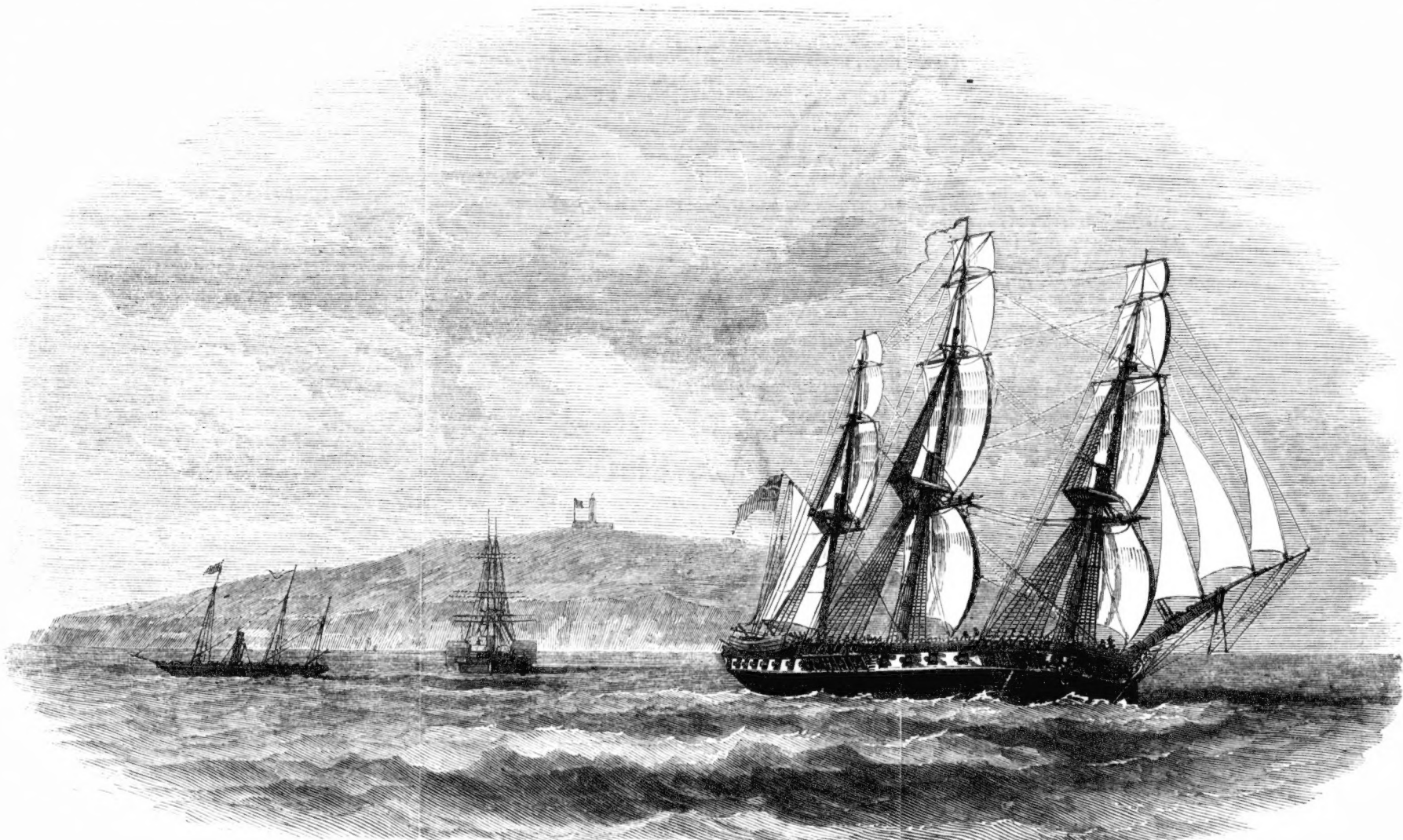
We share none of the common prejudices against the Prussian Sovereign. He is a man of parts and of letters—a scholar and philosopher—and popular in his own land. At the risk of paying him a poor compliment, we venture to say that he is the ablest and most accomplished monarch in Europe. Indeed, some people consider him too refined for the position. He tries, they say, to realise the old monarchic tradition, in a manner unsuited to an age of three per cents., gas, and railways. He does not now menace Switzerland from the common despotic point of view. No. He feels for his imprisoned Royalists of Neuchâtel the tenderness that Richard did for Blondel. He feels the sacredness of sovereignty im-



HUGH MILLER.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY TUNNY.)

perilled in his person besides. In fact, he is about to deluge the world with blood, from motives that would be charming in a romantic novel. All this, no doubt, raises him—as much as his *esprit* does—out of the dull catalogue of to-day's Kings; but it is not a kind of thing understood in England, and we would rather have a dull man with a safer policy.

The Swiss Question—as between Swiss and Hohenzollerns—is very simple. The freedom of Switzerland is ancient, the claim of Prussia modern. All the natural, original, sentimental interests involved, tell in favour of Switzerland. The principality of Neuchâtel only came under the Prussian Crown in the time of our Queen Anne, and the principality has never been Prussian in any sense in which that term could be philosophically applied. Its internal organisation—its moral life—has been Swiss. When, therefore, in 1848, the King lost his sovereign position there—when he could not hold it by force—when the law of nature (which was also the law of history, if we consider the early story of Neuchâtel) cut him off from his *status*—he was, we think, bound to acquiesce in the result. It was very lucky for him that 1848 took away so little. No doubt, his parchment position is a *bonâ fide* one; but, then, in what branch of life do we go by the letter of the law? A certain amount of possession now bars the best hereditary claims to an estate. A baronet of Nova Scotia does not insist that his eldest son shall rank as a knight. Everywhere we find some strict paper claims abandoned, for the sake of moral and modern considerations. If geography, sympathy, political events, &c., fix Neuchâtel in the Swiss Confederation, is it not better to accept that fact than to run all the risks of a war, for the sake of claims established in an entirely different state of European politics? This is so natural a way of looking at the thing to Englishmen, that we apprehend that it was the first thought everywhere in this country.



THE BRITISH SQUADRON CRUISING OFF THE COAST OF SWITZERLAND.

What course our English diplomacy may be taking in the matter, of course nobody knows; but how English opinion sets in it, even a fool might see. The English public's feeling is entirely on the side of the Swiss; and if the danger grows worse, we may expect to see English volunteers and English subscriptions growing out of that sentiment. Nay, if the Prussian invasion takes place, and produces the Austrian and French movements which may naturally be expected, an enterprising Minister would not find the least difficulty in engaging this country in the war on the side of Helvetic liberty. A man must have observed the general populace to little purpose, who does not see that they were never riper for a good-spirited row than at present.

The dunes of despotism—who are really the most dangerous to the cause of sound and loyal stability of any men—are industriously representing the question as one between governments and socialism or republicanism. That it may grow into that is probable, but at present it is a question between a despotism and that feeling of free national independence, which is one of the most ancient and honourable sentiments of the peoples of Europe. With the alarms, however, of despotism, England has nothing to do; we are not bound to dread the Swiss, because their freedom is a reproach to the tyrannies of the Continent. We are bound to sympathise with them if they have to combat for traditional principles, such as make the very life of our own political life. Such being so, we trust that the whole weight of this country will be thrown into the scale of peace, and employed in inducing the Prussian Monarch to accept a compromise or arbitration. A war in the heart of Western Europe would now be a disgrace and a calamity. But if come it must—contrary to our hope and our present expectation—why, we know on which side England's heart will be. Two great scenes of nature have ever been associated in poetry and tradition with freedom—the mountains and the sea; and a sympathy deeper than politics will bind together the struggling people of Switzerland and the admiring people of Britain.

HUGH MILLER.

WE had, last week, the melancholy duty of recording the untimely fate of Hugh Miller. Though well aware that this "Christian geologist" was not without the faults and failings peculiar to Scotchmen of his class, with much talent, much enthusiasm, little knowledge of life, and little experience of society, we should be very sorry indeed to write his name without feelings of real respect for his intellect, and sentiments of profound regret for his death. With his portrait many of our readers will no doubt be familiar. As has been remarked, the personal appearance of "Old Red," as he was familiarly named by his scientific friends, will not be forgotten by any who have seen him. A head of great massiveness, magnified by an abundant profusion of sub-Celtic hair, was set on a body of muscular compactness, but which, in later years, felt the undermining influence of a life of unusual physical and mental toil. Generally wrapped in a bulky plaid, and with a garb ready for any work, he had the appearance of a shepherd from the Ross-shire hills rather than an author and a man of science. In conversation or in lecturing the man of original genius and powerful mind at once shown out, and his abundant information and philosophical acuteness were only less remarkable than his amiable disposition, his generous spirit, and his consistent, humble piety.

The career of Hugh Miller was one of almost romantic interest; and salutary lessons are to be learned from the story of his extraordinary life. We will therefore trace it with brevity. He was born in 1805, at Cromarty, a small shipping town in the North of Scotland, where his kinsmen were seafaring men, and owners of vessels engaged in the coasting trade. In his fifth year he lost his father, who perished in a storm at sea; and in early life he worked as a labourer in the Sandstone quarries of his native district, and afterwards as a stonemason in different parts of Scotland. After Mr. Miller had been employed in manual labour for about fifteen years, a bank was established in his native village. Of this institution he had the good fortune to be appointed manager or accountant—we are not sure which; and in that position wrote a pamphlet on the ecclesiastical squabbles which then distracted North Britain. This production attracted the notice of the leaders of that party in the Church of Scotland who have since formed themselves into the body known as "the Free Kirk;" and its author was selected by these eminent individuals to conduct the "Witness" newspaper—the principal exponent of their views, and organ of their opinions. Mr. Miller proved himself quite up to the mark. He had already published a volume of "Legendary Tales of Cromarty," of which the late Baron Hume, nephew of the historian—himself a man of much judgment and taste—said it was "written in an English style, which he has begun to regard as one of the lost arts;" and the ability he displayed as editor of the "Witness," and the influence exerted by him on ecclesiastical and educational events in Scotland, are well known.

Mr. Miller knew how to improve the position in which circumstances had placed him. He did not confine his newspaper to topics of local or passing interest. He availed himself of its columns to make public his geological observations and researches, and most of his works originally appeared in the form of articles in that newspaper. At length, in 1840, the name of Hugh Miller became widely known beyond his own country. At the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Glasgow that year Sir Roderick Murchison gave an account of the striking discoveries recently made in the old red sandstone of Scotland. M. Agassiz, who was present, pointed out the peculiarities and importance of these discoveries; and it was on this occasion that he proposed to associate the name of Mr. Miller with them by the wonderful fossil, the *Pterichthys Milleri*, specimens of which were then under the notice of the section. Dr. Buckland, following M. Agassiz, said that "he had never been so much astonished in his life by the powers of any man as he had been by the geological descriptions of Mr. Miller. He described these objects with a felicity which made him ashamed of the comparative meagreness and poverty of his own descriptions in the 'Bridgewater Treatise,' which had cost him hours and days of labour."

Mr. Miller's reputation was now made. The publication of the volume on the "Old Red Sandstone," with the details of the author's discoveries and researches, more than justified all the anticipations that had been formed. It was received with the highest approbation, not by men of science alone for the interest of its facts, but by men of letters for the beauty of its style. Sir Roderick Murchison, in his address to the Geological Society that year, "hailed the accession to their science of such a writer," and said that "his work is, to a beginner, worth a thousand didactic treatises." The "Edinburgh Review" spoke of the book being "as admirable for the clearness of its descriptions and the sweetness of its composition as for the purity and gracefulness that pervade it." The impression made by such a testimony was the more marked that the reviewer spoke of the writer as a fellow-countryman, "meritorious and self-taught."

A few years passed over, and Mr. Miller again claimed the attention of the public. In 1847, appeared "First Impressions of England and its People," the result of a tour made during the previous year. Some parts of this book, especially the account of the pilgrimages to Stratford-on-Avon, and the Leasowes, and Olney, and other places memorable for their literary associations, are as fine pieces of descriptive writing as the English language possesses. This magic of style characterised all his works, whether those of a more popular kind, or his scientific treatises, such as the "Old Red Sandstone," and "Footprints of the Creator," a volume suggested by the "Vestiges of Creation," and subversive of the fallacies of that superficial and plausible book. Few of the authors of our day have approached Hugh Miller as a master of English composition. Other living writers have now a wider celebrity, but they owe it much to the peculiarity of their style or the popularity of their topics. Mr. Miller has taken subjects of science, too often rendered dry and repulsive, and has thrown over them an air of attractive romance. His writings on literature, history, and politics, are known to comparatively few, from having appeared in the columns of a

local newspaper. In a work published in 1854, "My Schools and Schoolmasters, or the Story of my Education," Mr. Hugh Miller gives a most interesting account of his early life, and of the training and self-culture by which he rose to celebrity in literature and science. Notwithstanding the unpretending statements of his narrative, and the disavowal of any other elements of success than are within ordinary reach, every reader of that book feels that homage is due to an intellect, original and rare, as well as to natural talents, diligently and judiciously cultivated. While professedly written for the benefit of the working classes of his own country, there are few who may not derive pleasant and profitable lessons from this most remarkable piece of autobiography.

We need not repeat the painful details of Mr. Miller's death, seeing that they were fully given in the columns of our last number. It is sufficient to say that his funeral took place in the midst of an unusually large concourse of spectators. The shops along the route were for the most part closed, at the request of the magistrates; and very great respect was shown to the memory of the deceased geologist.

THE ISLE OF SERPENTS.

"WHAT CAN the Isle of Serpents be to England, or England to the Isle of Serpents?" people might, with reason, have exclaimed twelve months since. Indeed, how any disputes could have arisen about this very small place would, at that time, have puzzled the most prescient speculator on the future of modern Europe. As a rock, it is useless to any Power; and there are no inhabitants except those who tend the lighthouse, which the existence of the place renders necessary.

During our war with Russia, this island was in the hands of the Turks; and after the Paris Conference there existed little doubt of its belonging to the Sultan, in his suzerainty of the Principities. The Czar, however, took, or pretended to take, a different view of the matter, and a small party of Russians landed on the island for the purpose of taking possession of it. The Turkish Government, who were still in possession of the island, naturally evinced some jealousy at this evasion of the Treaty of Paris; and the English Admiral took summary measures to prevent any Russian reinforcements from landing.

Our engraving represents some few vessels of the English fleet cruising around the Isle of Serpents.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

ON Tuesday the Conference came to a conclusion with respect to the disputed points arising out of the late Treaty of Peace. The particulars will be found in another column.

The Senate and Legislative Corps are convoked by Imperial decree for the 16th of February; the return of Count de Morny from St. Petersburg may, therefore, be soon expected.

Hopes are entertained at Paris, and, it is said, on good grounds, that the mediation of the Emperor in the affair of Neuchâtel has been accepted.

A decree has been issued providing for the decentralisation of the administrative portion of the Government of Algeria, by the creation of local municipalities.

At the request of M. Billault, the Emperor has conceded a credit of three millions of francs to be expended in wages to those who may be wanting employment during the winter; "and to lessen by charity, carefully distributed, that heavy difference between the price of food and the amount of daily wages."

By a decision of the Emperor of the French, the dragoon regiment of the Imperial Guards is henceforth to bear the title of the Empress's Dragoons.

A clockmaker of Chauny (Aisne) has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment for using insulting expressions towards the Emperor and Empress, and also for having said that the man who in 1848 shot the then Archbishop of Paris (M. Affre), deserved the cross of the Legion of Honour.

SPAIN.

THE rumours of a Ministerial crisis are contradicted.

The state of Catalonia, which gave signs of turbulence, is less threatening. In Barcelona large numbers of workpeople had perambulated the streets demanding bread, but were induced to return quietly to their homes. The Government exempts from the payment of customs duties, during the existing famine (for it is something like that) all importations of food.

The Press is placed under the entire control of civil governors of provinces; the censors to be named by the Minister of the Interior.

AUSTRIA.

IT is credibly stated that Count Buol and Barons Bach and Bruck have been summoned by the Emperor to Italy.

The Governors of Hungary and Transylvania are empowered to give employment to persons whose political reputation was tarnished in 1848 and 1849, if they have behaved well since. The diplomatic and consular agents of Austria have received orders to accept and forward to Vienna the petitions of those emigrants who may wish to return to their native country; but they have also been furnished with a list of those persons who will never be permitted to enter the empire again.

Hungary appears to be in a very disordered state, owing to the depredations of banditti.

PRUSSIA.

THE Prince of Prussia (says a letter of the 29th ult. dated from Coblenz) yesterday assembled on the Parade the whole of the officers of the troops in garrison at Cologne, and informed them that, in consequence of the complications which had arisen with Switzerland, Prussia found herself in a very serious position. He congratulated in advance the troops who were to take part in the expedition. Among those, he said, whom he saw around him, were many whom he had already seen fighting bravely, and he expected from them the same military virtues in order to give fresh triumphs to the Prussian arms.

The Assembly of the Bourgeois have presented a petition to the King, praying him to avoid the dangers that threaten the material interests of the country.

The bands of all the regiments of Guards assembled on New Year's morning, and treated the Prince of Prussia to a morning concert in honour of his jubilee. The King presented his brother on this occasion with the 7th Regiment of Hussars, in addition to the 7th Regiment of Foot, of which he is already *chef*. In the afternoon numerous deputations waited on the Prince with presents commemorative of the day. These events took place at the Prince's palace. The Rotunda was devoted exclusively to the officers of the Prussian army, but the foreign military deputations—the English, the Austrian, and the Russian—were admitted to be spectators from a wide opening that leads into it from the Conservatory. Here Lord Bloomfield stood conspicuous, the more so from his diplomatic costume being the only non-military uniform present, flanked by Sir Colin Campbell, and supported by his suite; next to them the Austrian deputation, from the 34th Regiment of Foot, of which the Prince is chief; and at a convenient distance from both of these, but more advanced into the room, the deputation from the Prince's Russian (Kaluga, 4th Line) Regiment, consisting of but two officers. Count Alderberg, a Russian general attached as military representative to the Russian mission, was handed up to the highest post of all, at the head of the King's Adjutants. The silver shield which the officers of the army presented to the Prince was then given him, and the King proceeded to congratulate the Prince in the name of the army.

After having received the congratulations of the army, the Prince passed on to the next saloon, where the Landwehr and the veterans of the old wars of Prussia presented him with a helmet, accompanied by a lengthy address. On leaving the saloon the Prince withdrew to a private room, in which he gave a special audience to the English deputation that had brought him the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath. The English deputation was the first received of the foreign deputations, and was introduced by Lord Bloomfield.

RUSSIA.

ACCORDING to information given by the "Czas" of Cracow, the Russian army, which has been considerably reinforced, will make a forward movement as soon as the English expedition from Bombay shall have arrived at Bassorah. The Russian journals state that General Choulstom, commanding the corps of observation on the Turco-Russian frontier, has detached a corps of 4,500 men, with some light field-pieces, to the Persian frontier.

SWITZERLAND.

THE trial of the Neuchâtel prisoners is fixed for the 19th. By a decree, signed by the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Finance, dated December 30, the exportation of horses across the frontier, in every direction, is prohibited until further orders.

There has been a new levy of 14,000 men. A service of vigorous surveillance has been organised on the frontier. A proclamation by the Federal Council is expected.

General Dufour has organised a numerous staff. On his application, the Federal Council has given orders to place on a war footing eighteen additional battalions of infantry, as well as nine companies of carabineers, cavalry, and artillery.

A deputation of Royalists from Neuchâtel had left for Berlin, for the purpose of endeavouring to dissuade the Prussian Government from going to war.

The rumours of an Anglo-French mediation are more and more credited. Notwithstanding the vigorous preparations for war, hopes of peace are maintained. Considerable sums of money continue to be subscribed.

A national subscription, which was opened in the canton of Neuchâtel on the 26th ult., in favour of the families of such citizens of that canton as are about to take part in the war, had on the 28th amounted to 30,000. Some Royalists subscribed to the fund.

ITALY.

A SOLDIER has been arrested at Naples near the great magazine of powder, under circumstances which lead to the supposition that he intended to fire it. Had he succeeded, the explosion would probably have been far more awful than that which occurred two days previously.

The Austrian troops are, we are informed, to withdraw from the Daily of Parma, the General commanding them having received orders from his government to quit the country whenever the Duchess Regent shall request him to do so.

The Emperor of Austria has paid brief visits to Rovigo and Verona, at the latter of which towns he had an interview (though not, it is stated, on matters of business) with Marshal Radetzky.

The Sardinian Court has again been thrown into mourning by the death of the King's aunt and mother-in-law, the Archduchess Marie Elizabeth. His Majesty has been deeply affected by this loss, and left the capital immediately on hearing of it.

The illustrious family of the Foscari is just extinct. Two old ladies of the name resided until recently in a small room in the family palace; and not long ago, the last male descendant of the house died as an inferior member of a travelling dramatic company.

The Papal Government has granted a concession to construct a railroad from Rome to Bologna, by way of Ancona.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

SOME English ships were about to proceed to the coast of Creassia, in order to claim the restitution of the cargoes seized at Soujouk-Kale.

The Kurds have offered to Mr. Murray, lately British Minister at Tehran, to make war upon Persia.

The Porte has declared that its attitude towards the Shah will depend on the course pursued by Russia.

At the farewell audience given by the Sultan to the Persian Minister, Ferukh Khan, that diplomatist assured him of the pacific sentiments of the Persian Government.

In Constantinople, it was said that the Shah was forced to carry on the war by the fanaticism of the population. The tribes of Asterabad had offered cavalry to the Shah.

The Viceroy of Egypt is now crossing the desert on his progress to Upper Egypt. He has been preceded by three battalions of the regiment of blacks, well organised and well officered. His immediate escort consists of a hundred picked men of his own guard and three Pachas.

AMERICA.

THE negro insurrection excitement had not ceased when our last letters from America were despatched. It is still said to exist in the neighbourhood of Volney and Gordonsville. A number of negroes had been arrested; a negro at one of the iron works in Tennessee said he knew all about the plot, but would die before he would tell. He thereupon received 750 lashes, from which he died. At Cadiz, Triguero, Kentucky, a free negro was hung after being tried by a Vigilance Committee. There were many more in jail, some of whom were already doomed.

Washington despates state that orders have been given to government officers in New York to stop all shipments of men, arms, and provisions to General Walker. Walker's soldiers are described as in the most deplorable condition—some shirtless, some shoeless, some hatless—all sickly and "wretched-looking beyond description."

INDIA.

A RESERVE force for employment in the Persian Gulf was in course of organisation at Bombay at the date of last advices. The news of the fall of Herat had reached Bombay, but was doubted there. A force on the north-west frontier was exploring the great road to Cabul, for what purpose is not stated.

SETTLEMENT OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN QUESTION.

A TREATY by which the Central American difficulty is solved (at least for the time), has been signed by the English and American Governments. By this treaty the English abandon their protectorate of the Mosquito Indians; the territory of the Mosquito Indians is revised, certain portions being ceded to the Nicaraguan Republic under certain conditions, as that the Republic shall enact laws to prevent the purchase of lands from the Mosquito Indians, and the introduction and sale of spirituous liquors among them; and protect them from all inroads, intrusions, or aggressions along their western and northern frontier. The Mosquito Indians are not to cede their territory or rights to any other State without the consent of the United States and Great Britain; it being, however, understood that nothing shall preclude the conclusion of such voluntary compact and arrangements between the Republic of Nicaragua and the Mosquito Indians, by which the latter may be incorporated and united with the former.

The Republic of Nicaragua is to constitute the port of Greytown or San Juan a free port, and the city a free city, though under the sovereignty of the Republic, whose inhabitants shall enjoy the right to govern themselves by means of their own municipal government. But the said city of Greytown or San Juan, must raise, as soon as organised, by tax or duty on imports, some reasonable sum, to be paid half-yearly to the Mosquito Indians, by way of annuity for a limited period, as compensation for their interest in the territory now ceded to Nicaragua.

Two commissioners, one in the interest of the United States, the other of Great Britain, are to settle the new boundary line, the sum to be paid to the Mosquito Indians, &c.

In order to assure the neutrality of any and every means of communication across the isthmus which connects North and South America, and to settle the disputes on that matter, it is further declared and agreed, that Belize, or British Honduras, is not embraced in the treaty of 1850; and that the boundaries of that settlement shall be immediately defined in agreement with the Republic of Guatemala; and these boundaries are never to be extended. The islands of Ruatan, Bonaco, Utila, Barboretta, Helena, and Morat, situated in the Bay of Honduras, are declared free territory, under the sovereignty of the Republic of Honduras; the Governments of the United States and of Great Britain engaging to respect, in all future time, the rights of the said free territory.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF CANTON.

LATE despatches give fuller particulars as to the recent bombardment of Canton.

It appears that on the 8th October, a "lorcha" or small trading vessel, called the *Arrow*, while at anchor in the port of Canton, was boarded by Chinese troops, who in spite of remonstrances from her master, an Englishman, seized and carried off twelve out of fourteen of her native crew, and hauled down the British colours. The *Arrow* was Chinese-built, but had a colonial register, which gave her the protection of the British flag. This licence to hoist the British flag, however, had expired, as it now appears; nevertheless, the British Consul, backed by Sir John Bowring, was of opinion, that to seize these seamen without previous reference to the British authorities, was a violation of the 9th article of the supplementary treaty between China and Great Britain, which provides for such cases.

When, therefore, the master of the vessel applied to Mr. Parkes, the British Consul, the latter, pointing out the alleged infringement of the treaty, applied to Yeh, the Governor of Canton, for satisfaction. In reply, Yeh stated that the lorcha was not a foreign vessel; that "her British flag had been purchased through the merchant Black, as had been clearly established by the admission of the prisoners during an investigation;" that the vessel was Chinese-built, and manned by Chinese; that two of her crew were notorious pirates; and that as to the flag being hauled down, it was satisfactorily shown that no flag was flying when the lorcha was boarded.

These explanations were spread over some days; and during that time, the Governor had twice sent, first nine of the crew, and then twelve, not to the lorcha as had been demanded, but to the Consulate, and on the second occasion with an intimation that two of them must be sent back immediately, as they were criminals. These proceedings were regarded as unsatisfactory; and Consul Parkes, acting on Sir John Bowring's instructions, refused to receive the men. On the 21st of October, thirteen days after the seizure of the *Arrow*, Consul Parkes sent in an ultimatum: unless the Governor complied with the British demands—namely, the formal rendition of the crew, together with apology for their capture, within twenty-four hours, it would be left to the naval officers to exact satisfaction. Yeh did not comply with the demands; and Sir Michael Seymour, the British naval commander-in-chief, proceeded to use force.

A junk was first seized, but that led to no conclusions; and Sir Michael Seymour then sent the steam frigates *Encounter*, *Sampson*, and *Coromandel* (the former to lie off the factory), in the hope that the presence of such an imposing force would induce Yeh to comply, but his Excellency was determined on resistance. On the 23rd of October, therefore, Sir M. Seymour brought up his ships and ships-boats and opened fire on the outer forts. These and the whole of what are called the Barrier forts were soon in the possession of the marines or blue-jackets. The ships engaged were the *Coromandel* (flag), the *Encounter*, the *Barracouta*, the *Winchester*, and the *Sampson*, and the boats of the *Calcutta*, the *Winchester*, and the *Sybil*.

What our admiral calls "an ill-judged attempt at resistance" from two of the four Barrier forts, which fired on our ships and boats, resulted in the death of five Chinese soldiers. These forts mounted about 150 guns, from one foot bore to four-pounders. The guns being spiked, Sir Michael proceeded to Canton, where he found that the boats from the *Sampson* and *Barracouta* had taken quiet possession of the Blenheim Fort, and also of Macao Fort, a very strong position on an island in the middle of the river, and mounting 86 guns, which Sir Michael garrisoned and retained. Her Majesty's Consul at Canton immediately informed the Governor of Sir Michael's arrival before the town, and that aggressive proceedings would be continued until reparation was made in respect to the seizure of the seamen of the *Arrow*. "His Excellency's reply was very unsatisfactory," says Sir Michael Seymour. Accordingly, on the morning of the 24th, he landed a portion of the marines to aid detachments from the *Sybil* and *Encounter*, who were already at Canton, in the protection of the factory, and proceeded in the *Coromandel* to join the *Barracouta*, off Macao Fort. Then, at a preconcerted signal, the Bird's Nest Fort, mounting 35 guns, and a small fort opposite the city, which might have annoyed the factory, were taken without opposition, as were subsequently the Shamian Forts at the head of the Macao Passage; the whole of the guns were rendered unserviceable and the ammunition destroyed.

The next day, the Dutch Folly, a fort with fifty guns standing on a small island opposite Canton, was captured; and all the defences of the city being now in his hands, Sir Michael Seymour directed Mr. Parkes to write to the Governor and invite him to submit. No satisfactory reply was obtained; and on the 27th the Admiral fired into the Governor's compound, a large space of ground within the old city, surrounded by a high wall, which contains his Excellency's residence, and is consequently Government property. Subsequently, the walls of the city were breached. On the 29th, 300 marines and sailors landed, stormed the breach, and captured the Governor's palace, with a loss of three killed and twelve wounded. The Admiral landed also, and visited the palace; but in the evening withdrew the troops. On the morning of that day Yeh had sent the Prefect to the British Consulate to learn the demands of the British Admiral. Sir Michael Seymour replied by demanding that "the foreign representatives should have the same access to the authorities at Canton as at any other ports" open to the English.

"Your Excellency," writes Sir Michael on the 30th October, "sent no reply to my message; and, according to the intention of which I had given notice to your deputy, I breached the wall of the city, and thus obtained access to your Excellency's official residence, which I visited yesterday afternoon. This object accomplished, I withdrew my troops."

He further told Yeh, "that the entire city was at the mercy of the British, and that he alone had it in his power to terminate a condition of things that might produce the most serious calamities."

Yeh replied by vindicating his refusal of the demand of the Admiral to admit foreign representatives into the city, on the ground that the people are fierce, and that "the Plenipotentiary Bonham" had, in 1849, altogether given up the matter—it was agreed that the question should not be discussed any more. Sir Michael rejoined, that Mr. Bonham had waived but not abandoned the claim to the fulfilment of the Chinese promise made in 1847. He also reminded Yeh, that the demand then made was quite distinct from any former proposal. During these negotiations, which went on from the 31st of October to the 4th of November, hostilities with slight intermissions had continued. The *Barracouta* destroyed twenty-three war-junks, and received, it is said, eighty shot in her hull and rigging during the operation. The old city was shelled; and on the 12th of November the French Folly Fort was taken.

On the 8th, a bold attempt was made to destroy our ships with fire-rafts. Four were sent down with the tide; one was anchored close ahead of the *Barracouta*, and but for the promptitude with which her cable was slipped, might have been productive of disastrous consequences. To prevent a similar occurrence, a line of junks were drawn across the river, both above and below the squadron. One of the junks in the upper boom was burnt by a stinkpot thrown on board on the morning of the 12th, and two fire-boats exploded alongside the *Niger* (which, meanwhile, had arrived from England) on the 13th. This led to all boats, with which the river was thronged, being ordered beyond the lines of junks.

Still the Governor held out; and, on the 12th of November, Sir Michael Seymour resolved to complete his command in the river by the capture of the Bogue and Amingyong Forts. These forts were fully manned, and mounted upwards of 200 guns each; and the Chinese soldiers stood to their guns till our men entered the embrasures. They were captured, however, with very little loss; and the command of the river being thus completely in the hands of the Admiral, he will simply maintain his position till the pleasure of the English Government is made known to him.

On the 6th of November, Yeh had issued a proclamation calling on the people to stand firm and fight. He had also, it is stated, offered a large reward for the heads of the foreigners. The gentry of Canton, adopting the official views, had published their opinion of "the perverse and unreasonable infringement of the treaty by the English officers," and asked if there was "any love and reason" in their conduct. Mr. Parkes also, by order of Sir Michael Seymour, had not only published a full statement of what had taken place in English, but had got it translated into Chinese.

DECISION OF THE CONFERENCE ON THE DISPUTED RUSSIAN TREATY.

ON Tuesday the Conference signed a protocol which puts an end to the difficulties which have delayed the execution of the treaty of the 30th of March. The Conference has decided that the frontier shall follow the valley of Trajan up the river Yalpuick, leaving Tiglorad and Toback to Moldavia, and that Russia shall retain upon the right bank Komrat, with 330 versts of territory. The Isle of Serpents is to be considered as part of the mouths of the Danube. The Conference has decided, moreover, that the boundaries shall be settled and take effect by the 30th of March at the latest, and that at the same date the Austrian troops and the British fleet shall have evacuated the Danubian Principalities and the interior waters of Turkey. The Commission of the Principalities will then be able to enter those provinces, and proceed to the execution of its mission.

IRELAND.

ACCIDENT TO THE MARQUIS OF WATERFORD.—The Marquis of Waterford has met with a serious accident. In the court-yard of Curraghmore he was mounted on a restive Wicklow hunter, which plunged a little, and being irritated by the spur, kicked out, by which the Marquis was thrown upon the horse's neck. His foot becoming entangled, he was brought to the ground. The horse walked over him, inflicting a severe wound on his Lordship's forehead with his hoof. There was no fracture of the bone of the skull, and his Lordship is progressing towards recovery.

NEW MAYOR FOR DUBLIN.—The inauguration of R. Atkinson, Esq., the eminent poplin manufacturer, as Lord Mayor of Dublin, took place on New Year's Day, with the usual ceremonial. The day was fine, the antiquated gilt coach was employed in the pageant, and the procession through the city was much the same as on former years; but in one portion of the proceedings there was a feature of novelty where nothing of the kind could well be looked for. The new Lord Mayor, in addressing the Town Council, introduced some topics not generally referred to on such occasions, and, after telling the Council that the localities of the Mansion House would be sustained as heretofore, with the exception that he (the Lord Mayor) would take the liberty of carrying out his temperance principles in his own person.

MURDER.—A man named Owen Lavin, of Ballaghaderreen, on the 22nd ult. was stabbed by two persons, neither of whom, he stated, spoke a word to him, and neither of whom he knew. The poor fellow lingered for two days, and died on Christmas-eve.

SCOTLAND.

DINNER TO LORD PANMURE.

LORD PANMURE was entertained last week at a public dinner by the county gentlemen of Forfar, to testify their respect for his Lordship as Lord-Lieutenant of the county, and as an acknowledgment of his public services as Minister of War. To accommodate all parties in the district, Arbroath was selected as the most central place of meeting, and the new Market Hall was elegantly decorated for the occasion. The building is constructed after the model of the nave of the Crystal Palace.

The company assembled at four o'clock, and occupied every seat on the ground floor, while two hundred ladies filled the galleries. The chair was occupied by Sir John Odziev, convenor of the county, supported on the right by Lord Panmure, Lord Knaird, the Hon. William Maule, Viscount Melville, Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, &c.; and on the left by the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earl of Southesk, the Earl of Kintore, Viscount Duncan, M.P., the Lord Advocate, &c.

Lord Panmure, in the course of his speech, alluded to the inquiry into the state of the English army in the Crimea, made by Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch, who had been sent out, not, as had been supposed, with any vindictive wish to punish the supposed guilty parties, but simply with a desire to collect information as to the cause of the mishaps. The report of the Commissioners, he believed, had been made with great fidelity, and without a desire to injure the feelings of any British officer, but simply with a wish to tell the truth. Many of the reforms in the army for which he had received credit had been commenced under the Duke of Newcastle. "It was my lot, with the aid of my colleagues, to make a radical change—and I do not use the term offensively—in the constitution and command of the British army. Already had the Duke of Newcastle been establishing a distinct department which would manage the affairs of war in this country. It is not only essential that such a department should exist in time of war; for, believe me, there are matters sufficient for a very large department even in times of the most profound peace. I was accused of applying too stoutly to reform during a period of existing war; but the fact was, I found we could not carry on the war without the reform, and I determined, whatever the risk, to accomplish the change. You will readily believe the necessity of this when I tell you, that, till within a year and a few months, the Commander-in-Chief had only the cavalry and the infantry under his charge. With the artillery he had nothing to do, and they were placed beside him on the field or in some camp adjoining. I have, with the consent of my colleagues, placed the artillery and engineers of this country, as they ought to be, under the immediate command of the Commander-in-Chief. I will answer for it, that, should due necessity arise, we could embark any number of soldiers this country may be called upon to provide, complete in all their equipments, ten days after the order had been given."

The other chief speech of the evening was that of Mr. T. Steere, United States consul, who made some remarks on the good effects of reciprocal free trade, and on the admirable effects of an untrammelled press. On the latter subject he observed:—"He must be a superficial reasoner indeed, who does not perceive, wrapt in the thunders of the 'Times,' and the genial humour and flowing wit of 'Punch,' principle and philosophy, which are continually carrying them, as well as others, along towards a higher appreciation of truth, of others' rights, and universal justice; toward the aim and end of the press—the diffusion of truth, and the cultivation and advocacy of true manners and morals, and public virtue in society and government."

THE PROVINCES.

EXTRAORDINARY RECENTANCE.—On Christmas Day a singular scene was witnessed in Norwich market-place. Mr. J. Conley, an individual who formerly professed heterodox opinions, and sent them forth to the world in various publications, publicly renounced his errors; and, afterwards taking up a large bale of his works, which he designated "a bundle of lies," proceeded to Mouschold Heath and there committed them to the flames. Mr. Conley has for some little time been an active preacher of the Gospel he formerly reviled.

THE OXFORD MEMBERS.—The Members for Oxford City, Mr. Langston and Mr. Cardwell, are accustomed to dine annually with the "Druids" of that town. The festival was celebrated on New Year's Day; both the Members were present, and each spoke. Mr. Langston, in the course of his remarks, said he had it on good authority that the unfortunate affair with Persia is likely to terminate before Parliament meets. On the subject of the Income-tax, while Mr. Langston stated his objections to the impost and his desire for its removal, Mr. Cardwell pleaded that "it would be unfair to the Government, when they were about to enter into a full statement of their views, to interfere and attempt to forestall them by making any statement as to this or that peculiar branch."

FELONY DE SE.—A girl not much more than fifteen years old, drowned herself at Exeter, owing to disappointed love, the object of her affection being a lad about eighteen, who had quarrelled with her. A verdict of felony de se was returned by the Coroner's jury, and the poor girl buried in the barbarous manner in such sad cases customary.

ANOTHER SPURGEON.—A young gentleman named Guinness, a relative of the great Dublin brewer, has lately been creating a sensation among the religious public in Devonshire. His admirers say that he has a voice quite as powerful as Mr. Spurgeon's, and much more sonorous and persuasive. He preached at Crediton, last week, when the Baptist Chapel not being found capable of holding half the applicants for tickets, the music hall at the public rooms was hired for the occasion; but even this building proved insufficient to contain the anxious crowd who flocked to the doors.

OVERSTRAINED MERCY.—In July last George Holmes, suspected of the murder of Mrs. McKnight, at Ilkley, Yorkshire, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for robbing and assaulting a child on the high road. On Monday week, to the astonishment of most people, he was discharged from York Castle by order of Sir George Grey, on the ground of "continued indisposition"—the "indisposition" resulting, of course, from confinement, poor fellow! The same evening he was arrested on a charge of passing a bad half-crown, which he affirms he received from the Governor of the jail when he left. On Wednesday he was again discharged.

AGRICULTURE PROMOTED.—The Earl of Stamford has given two prizes for the two best cultivated farms belonging to his estate in Leicestershire. The first consists of four chased silver cups, with appropriate designs, value £25, awarded to Mr. J. Cowlishaw, Ratby, for the best cultivated farm above 200 acres. The second prize is an elegant chased cup with cover, value £20, awarded to Mr. Archer, Ashbourne Lodge, for the best cultivated farm above 100 acres.

THE ALLEGED ABDUCTION CASE AT BATH.—The hearing of the case, "Yescombe v. Roche and another," some particulars of which appeared in the "Illustrated Times" of last week, concluded on Saturday. The defendants, Mrs. Roche and Mademoiselle Koch, the governess, for the loss of whose services the action was brought, were examined and cross-examined at great length, their evidence almost amounting to a point-blank denial of that which had been given by the plaintiff and his witnesses. According to Mademoiselle Koch she left her situation in consequence of ill-treatment, and had gone to Mrs. Madox's house until the affair was settled. Mr. Roche's conduct towards her had never been anything but that of a gentleman. At the conclusion of the defendants' case, Mrs. Yescombe was recalled, and solemnly denied several of the statements made by the governess. During Mrs. Yescombe's examination Mr. Walter Savage Landor came into court and was at once called as a witness for the plaintiff. He deposed to being present at Mr. Yescombe's house when the governess said she would write a letter to Mr. Roche that would make him ashamed of his attentions to her, and that she went upstairs apparently for that purpose. Mademoiselle Koch had stated that this letter was written at the dictation of Mrs. Yescombe. He (Mr. Landor) had addressed a letter to the governess, giving her very good advice. He could neither rebut nor substantiate the charge of abduction against Mr. Roche. The Learned Judge, after some remarks on the law of the case, observed that the case was a most unhappy and melancholy one. There were two families of high station, whose example must influence others, coming before the Court and the public, giving evidence so entirely contradictory upon oath that it was utterly impossible to escape from the conclusion that the part against whom the jury might feel it to be their duty to return a verdict would be left in the position of having the stigma of wilful perjury recorded against them. There was no escape from this result. The jury, after an absence of rather more than an hour, returned a verdict against Mr. Roche on the count for harbouring—damages one farthing. The jury also expressed an unanimous opinion that the case ought never to have been brought into court. The plaintiff withdrew another action for trespass which he had brought against Mr. Roche.

EARL GREY ON RAGGED SCHOOLS.—On Friday week Earl Grey presided at the annual meeting of the Newcastle Ragged and Industrial Schools. His Lordship remarked, in the course of the evening, that even if the higher motives of duty and charity did not lead us to combat vicious ignorance, self-interest was at least a sufficient inducement, especially, perhaps, at the present moment, when crimes of great atrocity prevailed. His Lordship announced that no less than an eighth or a ninth of the whole expenses of the Newcastle Ragged Schools is covered by the work of the children.

SHOCKING MURDER AND SUICIDE NEAR SHEFFIELD.—A shocking murder and suicide have been perpetrated at the Hogg, near Sheffield, by an unmarried woman named Betsy Jacques. The young woman had an illegitimate child, about two years of age, named John Henry Jacques, and lived with her mother and father-in-law. Some neighbours on Monday evening heard a shriek proceed from an outhouse formerly used as a workshop, but now used as a pig-stye. On going thither they found the child lying on the ground, with its throat cut, and quite dead. Betsy Jacques, the mother, was standing near the child in a stooping position, with her throat also severely cut; by her side was a razor covered with blood. The young woman not being dead when found, Mr. J. S. Roberts, surgeon, Wadsley, was sent for, but she died before he arrived.

A DESPERATE CONVICT.—The eyes of a convict in Cardiff jail were for some days observed to be very much inflamed. The attention of the medical officer of the prison was called to the fact. It was soon evident, from a careful examination, that the balls of the eyes had been scraped with some sharp substance; and on examining the prisoner a piece of glass was found upon him. It was thus discovered that the infatuated man had endeavoured to destroy his sight, so as to avoid being sent abroad, and to incapacitate himself for the performance of labourous work. A few days previously he attempted to strangle himself, but he was foiled in the attempt by the opportune visit of a turnkey, who found him nearly insensible, with his handkerchief tied tightly around his throat and one end attached to the prison bars. He had previously made a ferocious attack on one of the turnkeys.

FUNERAL OF FATHER MATHEW.

We have already recorded the death of "The Great Apostle of Temperance," and expressed our admiration of his pure philanthropic character. We now present our readers with an engraving of the scene which rendered memorable his consignment to the tomb, in the cemetery of Cork.

It was on the 11th ult. that the funeral of Father Mathew took place, with a pomp befitting the celebrity of the deceased. He was followed to the grave by thousands of all creeds and classes; and Protestants vied with Catholics in evincing respect for his memory. The cortege was more than three miles long, and took an hour and a half to pass any particular point. It was attended by the corporation and city officers, in mourning, by several dignitaries and clergymen of the Established Church, as well as by a great number of the Roman Catholic clergy, with their Bishop at their head, and by all the Roman Catholic and a great many of the Protestant gentry of the surrounding country.

The procession, after passing through Parliament Street, wound along the South Mall, Warren's Place, Merchant's Quay, Patrick Street, the Grand Parade, the South Mall, over Parliament Bridge, along George's Quay, South Terrace, Anglesea Street, Langford Row, and Evergreen, to the Cemetery.

In a similar manner with the streets of the city the roads leading to the Cemetery were lined by thousands of anxious spectators, and as the head of the procession slowly appeared in sight much anxiety and excitement were exhibited to obtain a glimpse of the coffin of one who in town and country had won the dearest affections of the people. For hours before the procession left the chapel, the grave-yard was being rapidly filled, and, when the cortege entered the cemetery, there could not positively have been less than from forty to fifty thousand persons present. Each alley and avenue of this beautiful burial-ground was filled with people; and as the coffin was borne into the yard, every head was uncovered, and many a face was suffused with tears. As the procession entered the gates, the members of the Christian Brotherhood advanced first in order, and were then succeeded by the Roman Catholic Clergy, chanting the funeral service. The Bishop received the coffin at the gates, and the procession again moved on towards the grave prepared for its reception, alongside the large stone cross. It may be stated that it was always Father Mathew's most anxious desire to be interred in this particular spot; and it is less than two years since he expressed his earnest desire to have his will respected in this particular. A grave, or more properly speaking a vault, built up with brick, in the close vicinity of the cross, now contains the last remains of him who has ceased to exist in this world, but whose memory will never die.

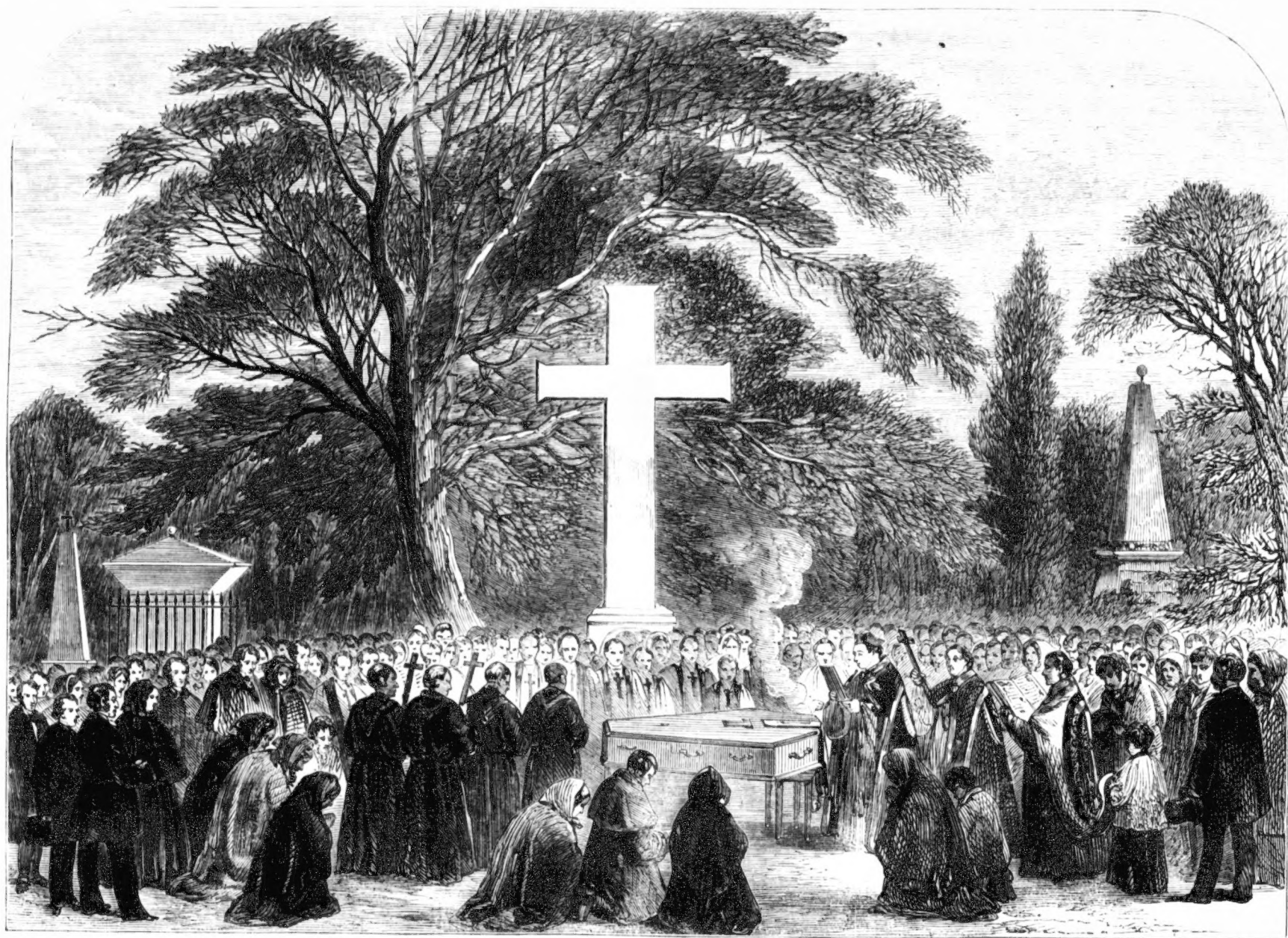
The accompanying engraving is from a sketch taken on the day of his burial. The place of his interment is situated in the centre of the large cemetery of which he was the original promoter. The ground was formerly used as a botanic garden, but through the instrumentality of Father Mathew, was purchased for a cemetery, which has since been called after him. The stone cross represented in the engraving was erected by him in 1830, and his last request was that he should be interred adjoining this spot.

EXPLOSION AT RHODES.

THE ancient city of Rhodes, so celebrated for its historic associations was lately the scene of a series of calamities. On the 2nd of November there was a fearful earthquake, which partially destroyed the town; and on the 6th a terrible storm, accompanied by thunder and lightning, broke out over the place, and overthrew a number of houses. At length the lightning, striking the church of St. John, found its way into the vaults, in which a large quantity of gunpowder was deposited—an explosion followed, and such was the destruction which ensued that only a heap of ruins was left to mark the spot occupied by the church and the buildings surrounding the edifice. The engraving on the following page, from a sketch by a French artist, will give an idea of the terrible character of this catastrophe.

In ancient times Rhodes, which was among the most celebrated of Greek cities, boasted of one of the seven wonders of the world, namely, the famous brazen Colossus, which stood at the entrance of the harbour. After the destruction of its republic, Rhodes belonged successively to the Romans, to the Greek Emperors, the Genoese, and the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, the latter of whom held it for more than a couple of centuries, but were finally deprived of it by the Turks under Solymann the Magnificent.

The city of the present day is enclosed by walls built by the Knights of St. John; and the ancient hospital of the order—if not destroyed by the recent explosion—still exists within the town. The population numbers about 15,000 inhabitants; 8,000 of them are Turks, and 3,000 Jews. Three thousand Greeks reside without the suburbs.



THE BURIAL OF FATHER MATHEW IN THE CEMETERY AT CORK.



EXPLOSION OF A POWDER MAGAZINE ON THE ISLE OF RHODES.

THE NEUFCHÂTEL DIFFICULTY.

THE Principality of Neuchâtel came into the possession of the house of Habsburg in 1707, when, on the death, without heirs, of the Duchess de Nemours, the last Princess of the House of Orleans-Longueville, to whom the sovereignty of this canton formerly belonged, the right of succession was adjudged to Frederick I., against fourteen other pretenders, by the highest legal court of the principality itself. This court of the Trois-États was composed, as the name implies, of certain notables of the three estates of the realm. All the ecclesiastical and civil authorities of the principality were present at the sitting of this tribunal. On the day when the judgment was to be pronounced, thirteen of the candidates retired from the struggle, which was then carried on between the King of Prussia and the Prince de Carignan. The adjudication went in favour of the former, on the ground of his succession to the rights of the House of Châlons-Orange-Nassau, he being the son of the Princess Louise, who was aunt to William III., King of England, and who died without issue. This success of the house of Hohenzollern against the Catholic pretenders backed up by the influence of Louis XIV., was considered at the time a signal victory for the Protestant interest in Europe, then seriously endangered by the aggressive policy of the French monarch. From that period Neuchâtel was governed by the King of Prussia, not as a part of the Prussian monarchy, but as an independent principality, with its old constitution unaltered; and it acquired a high degree of material development, so that it must be at present considered as one of the most prosperous and progressive spots in Europe.

In 1806 Napoleon dictated to Prussia a treaty, which included, among other things, the cession of Neuchâtel, which he did not, however, incorporate with the French Empire, but made over to Marshal Berthier, as Prince. But the Marshal never in his life visited his principality, and it continued to be governed by the old authorities, under the old constitution, up to 1814. In that year the allied troops entered Neuchâtel and put an end to Marshal Berthier's nominal sovereignty. This took place on the 25th of January. On the 3rd of February the citizens of the four chief places in the principality addressed a petition to the King of Prussia, to be allowed to return under his rule. After certain negotiations with Marshal Berthier, who, in consideration of an annuity of £5,000, abdicated in favour of the King of Prussia, this monarch resumed his former relation with the Neuchâtélais. In the Treaty of Vienna he was recognised as the Sovereign of Neuchâtel, and his possession of it was guaranteed by all the Powers who signed the treaty. At the same time Prussia, Austria, and Russia proposed to the Federal Government of the Swiss Republic to receive Neuchâtel as a member of their confederation, and a similar negotiation proceeded from the authorities of Neuchâtel itself. Switzerland consented. This act was recognised in the Treaty of Vienna.

The rupture of the relations between Prussia and the principality took place in 1848, by a resolution which sprung up in what is called the Watchmaker's Valley, which the local government did not attempt to suppress, knowing well that if it did, it would inevitably have brought on itself an invasion of free corps from the German Radical cantons, while all help from Prussia, then herself a prey to violent internal agitations, was out of the question. A new government was proclaimed, and all dependence upon the King of Prussia was declared to be at an end. But that monarch never acquiesced in this breach of covenant; and though, as he says in some of his state-papers, he has refrained from asserting his right by force of arms, for the sake of European peace, he took care to have that right acknowledged by Europe. This was done by a protocol, drawn up in London, in 1855, at the request of Chevalier Bunsen, then Prussian Ambassador in this country, and to which the Ambassadors of France, Russia, Austria, and Lord Malmesbury (as the Foreign Secretary of England), were parties.

But early in September, 1856, an attempt was made to restore Neuchâtel to the authority of the King of Prussia. This attempt, which, it has been often rumoured, was well known to and favoured by the King of Prussia, proved utterly abortive.

At present no country of Europe is regarded with more sympathy than that confederacy of free states which has, in other days, resisted the claims of the princes of Hapsburg, of Charles the Bold, and of warriors still more famous in the history of Europe. The strong interest which has been awakened in the affair of Neuchâtel renders it very desirable that, at the present time, the situation of that part of Switzerland should be correctly understood. The canton of Neuchâtel is situated between France, the canton of Vaud, and that of Berne. Its population amounts to about 60,000 souls, and its area to 725 kilometres. It consists of the principality of Neuchâtel proper, and of the county of Valangin. The people are now acquainted with its political organization, and with the causes that have given rise to the present difficulties, upon which it would be needless to enlarge. By the terms of



THE SWISS REPUBLICANS RETAKING THE CASTLE OF NEUFCHÂTEL FROM THE ROYALIST INSURGENTS.



ROYALIST PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE CHAPEL OF THE CASTLE OF NEUFCHÂTEL.

the federal compact, each canton of Switzerland is bound to furnish to the army a contingent proportioned to its population. In case of war, the aggregate numerical strength of these contingents is 33,758 men, who form part of the first levy; in this particular instance the quota due from the canton of Neuchâtel is 960 men, of whom 734 are for the infantry. Independently of the troops composing the first levy, the Federal army has a reserve of the same numerical strength, which, in the event of a serious emergency, would raise the forces of the Confederation to 67,515 combatants, not including the *landwehr*, or militia, which consists of all the men capable of bearing arms, who belong neither to the contingent nor the reserve. The Swiss are brave and intelligent; and it is necessary to take into account the patriotic sentiment, the profound devotion to the independence of his native land, to which the Swiss in every age has been indebted for successes otherwise hopeless. In fact, looking at its actual condition, the Helvetic army is fully adequate to maintain order within the sphere of the Confederation, and to cause the Federal pact and the laws of the country to be everywhere respected.

When Switzerland is engaged in any military contest, the Diet forms the supreme military authority. It is that body which publishes military orders, determines the general organization of the army, calls the citizens to arms, and appoints the general commanding-in-chief, the quartermaster-general, and the commissary-general. It presides over the instruction of both officers and men, as well as the purchase and custody of the munitions of war. The general commanding-in-chief receives from the Diet his instructions and powers, and he alone is responsible for his acts. His office may in no case continue longer than the duration of the term for which the forces are embodied. The canton of Neuchâtel, protected by the lake of the same name, which extends from Yverdon towards the north-east as far as St. Blaise, over an extent of nearly thirty-two kilometres, with an average breadth of seven kilometres, is accessible through the canton of Vaud and that of Berne; and the mountains of the Jura chain, which traverse these districts, contain many defiles of a nature greatly to assist the defence. The city of Neuchâtel, the chief town of the principality, and the seat of its government, lies close to the Seyon, where it debouches into the lake; its inhabitants number about 6,000 souls. Some say that it is incapable of defence, and could not stand a siege. The other towns in the principality are Boudry, Travers, Motiers, Valangin, Le Locle, and Le Chaux-de-Fonds. The soil of Neuchâtel is generally rich and well cultivated, and the inhabitants who dwell in it are laborious and peaceable.

It appears that the Swiss are as far from shirking an encounter with this representative of a modern monarchy, as their ancestors were of trying conclusions with his betters. While the warlike ardour of the King of Prussia abates, that of the brave Swiss increases, as we might have expected in the countrymen of Tell. It is stated that on the 24th ult., 40,000 men were already posted on the frontiers of Basle and Schaffhausen, and on the following Tuesday 140,000 men had announced to the cantonal authorities that they were on their way to the posts which had been assigned to them. The frontiers towards all the contiguous states are strictly guarded, excepting those towards Austria. The inhabitants of Tessin know that during this season of the year they have little or nothing to fear from their formidable neighbours, and the Austrians themselves confess that during the winter months it would be sheer madness to attempt to enter the mountainous parts of Switzerland. On the 24th, all the higher public schools in Switzerland were closed, and it was settled that they should not be re-opened until the storm had blown over. In the evening of the same day the students of Zurich had formed a free corps, and the young people in the other cantons have since followed their example. Switzerland is in no want of men of which to form a powerful army, but there is a great dearth of officers, as the authorities will not accept the proffered services of the so-called "Emigration." The horses which are to be used for the artillery in Zurich, Thurgau, Basle, Aargau, and Schaffhausen are to be kept in constant readiness for service. Although the wealthy manufacturers and merchants declare that peace is the greatest of blessings, their patriotism is such that almost all of them have offered to do military service. On the 27th several complete battalions and corps of riflemen, which were on their way from Appenzell and St. Gall to Schaffhausen and Stein, arrived by railroad at Winterthur, but they only remained there a couple of hours, so impatient were they to reach their destination. The Swiss are buying up very large quantities of corn and other necessities of life, as they foresee that their neighbours will indirectly assist Prussia by blockading their frontier and cutting them off from all communication with the outer world. Great activity prevails in the arsenals, and many new telegraphic lines are being constructed; but the Swiss are not fond of doing things in a hurry, and consequently they set about their work as calmly and systematically as if they had no enemy to

fear. It is universally allowed by the Swiss that the Prussians are excellent soldiers; but still they feel full of confidence. There is no rod or untidiness, but every single Swiss seems to have a feeling that the eyes of the world are on him, and that it is his duty to assist in maintaining the high reputation for bravery which his fellow-countrymen have always borne. The cry is, "Neuchâtel is Swiss, and must remain Swiss." The Swiss nation forms but a single man, a single heart."

Two engravings in our present number illustrate the late Royalist rising, which only succeeded in raising those difficulties which now agitate Europe. It will be remembered that the solitary event which promised success to the Royalists, was that they succeeded in seizing the Castle at Neuchâtel. From this position, however, they were speedily ejected. The Republicans sealed the house-tops adjacent to the Castle, and in less than half an hour had regained the position. Colonel Deuzler, the republican leader, seeing that the snake was scotched, now endeavoured to avoid any further bloodshed; but his party had by this time become exasperated, and evidently felt anxious to terminate the question in the same bloody manner in which it had been opened. The office of the Neuchâtelais journal, the organ of the Royalists, was ransacked, fired, and reduced to ashes; and threatening shots were heard from time to time. Fortunately, however, few lives were lost in this ill-advised and feebly executed attempt. The insurgents themselves (who had the worst of the conflict) had only fifteen men killed and eighteen wounded; but the proportion of the killed and the wounded affords some evidence that the combat was at any rate severe. The son of the insurgent leader, Count Pourtales, was among the slain, and the old Count himself narrowly escaped with his life. Finding his defence hopeless, the Count left the Castle by a gate which he believed was free; but ere he could escape, he was confronted by a republican volunteer. Seeing the danger of his leader, a Royalist, who was armed, endeavoured to bayonet the Republican, who seized the musket by the barrel, snatched it from his grasp, and with the butt end dealt him a blow which dashed out his brains and laid him a corpse at the feet of Pourtales. The soldier then rushed upon the Count and seized him by the throat. Pourtales offered him a thousand francs if he would spare his life, but the Republican rejected the offer with indignation, and tearing the Count's epaulet from his shoulders and his decorations from his breast, threw them in his face. At this moment Colonel Deuzler came up, and thrusting the soldier aside, took the Count prisoner.

But the leader of the insurrection was not alone unfortunate in this respect. A great number of his confederates were taken, and now await, as they have long awaited, their trial. That they shall be tried by the laws they infringed, the Swiss Confederacy seem resolved; but whether an escape will be found from the difficulties which such a step seems to threaten, remains yet to be seen. To the prisoners themselves, though they are treated with all the leniency and respect which ought to be paid to political prisoners the world through, any settlement of the question must be welcome.

MEETING OF THE SWISS IN LONDON.

A meeting of the Swiss residing in London was held on Friday week at Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars, for the purpose of adopting proceedings in reference to the threatened attack upon Switzerland by Prussia. The chair was taken by Mr. John Rapp, Consul-General of the Swiss Confederation in London, who was supported by M. A. Dovat, M. Jules Bordier, M. J. C. Inthurn, M. J. Patrey, M. G. Prevost, M. A. P. Prevost, M. C. Verrey, M. A. Pasteur, M. Jules Stauffer, M. P. Broc, M. C. Bovet, M. G. Bovet, M. P. Walther, M. Beaume, M. J. W. Baeschlin, M. Pietet, Captain Kesse, &c. The proceedings were conducted in the French language. About 200 persons were present; and the general tone of feeling was very enthusiastic. The meeting was addressed by the Messrs. Broc, Stauffer, Bordier, Walther, Pietet, Bovet, and others, in support of an address to the Federal Council at Berne, which was signed by 180 persons. It was announced that the subscriptions, independently of the Liverpool Fund, amounted to £1,781.

On Thursday, there was a meeting for similar purposes at Liverpool, which was equally animated, and at which the subscriptions amounted to £500.

EDINBURGH ART-MANUFACTURE EXHIBITION.

This exhibition is now perfectly arranged, and attracts crowds of visitors. There is, of course, a strong family resemblance amongst all exhibitions of the kind, and we are not at all surprised to find many of the same names in the catalogue of this as of similar exhibitions, and to see many articles in this collection which have been shown elsewhere. The committee has, however, introduced some new and excellent features into the arrangements, which deserve particular notice. In the first place, the terms of admission are very moderate, tickets being granted for the whole time of the exhibition for the small amount of three shillings. The exhibition is open during the evening, as well as in the day time; and the working classes of Edinburgh are thus enabled to study, at a very trifling cost, the large assemblage of ornamental articles which have been brought together; and it is impossible to believe that even the most careless observer can fail to gather some hints that may be useful to him, either in his special avocation, or as improving to his general intelligence. Another feature in the management is the attempt to give a more practical effect to the exhibition by means of lectures.

Edinburgh being but little of a manufacturing town, has not of course furnished a large amount of the contributions from its own labour. The gold, silver, and plated goods are chiefly derived from London, Birmingham, and Sheffield; and the pottery from Staffordshire and Worcester. Messrs. Hunt and Roskill, Phillips, Lambert and Rawlings, Elkington and Co., Ratcliffe and Co., are the most prominent in the former; and Messrs. Copeland, Minton, Copeland, and Battam, in the latter. Each of these firms has sent an excellent collection to the exhibition. The leading goldsmiths and jewellers of Edinburgh have also contributed largely to the exhibition. Messrs. Mackay, Cunningham and Co., J. and W. Marshall, Marshall and Sons, and W. Marshall and Co., are the most extensive contributors, and if they do not exhibit much of their own workmanship, they show that they know how to appreciate and disseminate the best productions of other places.

The most remarkable feature in this class, however, is the large number of valuable and admirable contributions from private collectors. They include almost every article of vertu, gold and silver work, china, pottery, and glass, enamels and carvings of every kind, and almost of every age; and very many of the articles bear testimony to the taste, as well as the munificence of the exhibitors. The collection of antique artistic objects alone would have formed a highly interesting and important exhibition.

The class in which Edinburgh has contributed the largest amount of home manufacture is that of house decoration, which evidently has engaged considerable attention. Some of the examples are excellent both in design and execution, and prove that in that class, at least, the artisan is paying court to the artist. Messrs. Moxon, of Edinburgh and London, Messrs. Lithgow and Purday, and Messrs. Bonar and Carriac, deserve special mention. Messrs. Whytock's carpets and tapestry, fringes, and other decorations, are well known and well represented here; and Messrs. Henderson and Widdell, of Lasswade, show good specimens of their carpet manufacture.

The home exhibitors are also prominent in the class of furniture, some of which exhibits excellent taste and fine workmanship.

But the class in which the Edinburgh producers take the highest place is that of ornamental printing, the works of Messrs. Clark being, we think, equal to anything we have seen in their class.

The French Court is, of course, a great attraction, especially with the young artists, who have perhaps never before had the opportunity of examining the china, tapestry, plate, wood carving, bronzes, marqueterie, and other products of Paris.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP CRUIZER having run down a Hamburg vessel off Ris, a court-martial was held on board the Indefatigable, which resulted in Commander Fellowes being adjudged to pay the expenses for not carrying steam-lights.

THE SOUTH-WESTERN STEAM-PACKET COMPANY purpose to establish in March next, a steam-packet communication between Weymouth and the Channel Islands. The vessels are to run twice a week.

DISASTERS AT SEA.

OUR coasts have been visited by a succession of gales within the last week, and an appalling number of disasters are reported.

Between Flamborough Head and the mouth of the Tyne between thirty and forty wrecks are reported to have occurred; in several instances the vessels going down with all hands. At Scarborough, shortly after daybreak on Sunday morning, a brig, which was endeavouring to reach the harbour, became overwhelmed apparently by the furious storm which was raging around, and foundered.

At Hartlepool and in its vicinity the gale was from the eastward with falls of snow and hail. A tremendous sea broke upon the beach. Several vessels, after being placed in great peril, succeeded in making the harbour, but five vessels foundered during the height of the gale, with all hands. Another ill-fated vessel, the brig Empress, Captain Smith, of Sunderland, was dismasted, went on the Langsars Rocks, and then was driven on the Seaton Beach, and out of a crew of twelve only four were saved. Another ship, the Mary Harvey, belonging to Colchester, was cast ashore, and two of the crew perished. More than fifteen vessels have been lost or stranded in the vicinity of the harbour. The hands of the Joven Dolores, of Ipswich, which was driven ashore near the East Pier, reported that they saw three ships foundered, the fearful sea that was running preventing all human aid being rendered the unhappy crews.

The screw-steamer Duraskin, Capt. Farlane, of Troon, with a crew of eleven men besides the master, bound to Bristol from Lason, was totally lost on the night of Thursday week, near Penzance. The master and mate were drowned.

On Sunday morning, between ten and eleven, the schooner Enterprise from Lynn, drove towards the shore at Newbiggen, near Plymouth. She was dashed upon the rock and quickly went to pieces, the crew perishing; and it is feared that another fatal catastrophe has taken place near Blyth, as part of a boat bearing the words "Vivid, of Sunderland, Beddingfield," also a new boat and some empty casks and barrels, have been cast up on the beach. Another wreck took place on Sunday morning to the southward of Blyth, a Bremen schooner, but the crew were happily preserved. On the same range of coast off Craster, a small fishing place in Abermouth Bay, near Alnwick, the Epsilon, of Sunderland, a brig, foundered in the course of Sunday forenoon, and every soul belonging to her was drowned.

Between Lowestoft, Yarmouth, and Cromer the gale told with terrible effect. On Yarmouth beach upwards of twelve coasters and colliers were driven by the force of the storm and stranded; most provisionally, the crews were saved. At Lowestoft the losses were nearly as numerous. On Monday morning, at break of day, a brig was discovered on the Corton beach, and on the coast guard proceeding to the spot, they found one poor fellow, who turned out to be the master, Captain Hunter, who had been washed ashore on the litter to which he had lashed himself. It is doubtful whether he will survive the injuries he has sustained. The wreck proved to be that of the brig Peggy, of Whitby, and all the crew, with the exception of the master, perished. Several coasters were cast ashore at Grimsby; and, in one instance, the brig Fifteen, of North Shields, the master was washed overboard.

The Reliance, from London, for Ceylon, is on shore at Deal, full of water. The crew was saved by the new life-boat recently furnished by the Institution of the Walmer Boatmen.

Liverpool records a most melancholy loss. As the Point-of-Air life-boat was proceeding to a wreck off Rhyl, on Sunday morning, she captured. The entire crew, thirteen in number (nine of whom were married and have left large families), were drowned. We are greatly pleased to add that a subscription having been opened for the widows of these gallant boatmen, £300 were subscribed in a few minutes among the shipowners and merchants of Liverpool. No fewer than six wrecks are visible in the neighbourhood of Rhyl. The following disasters are also reported.—A flat ground on West Hoyle. A flat driven ashore near Point-of-Air Lighthouse. The sloop Marshal, of Carnarvon, sank on Saturday night north of Abergele: the crew were saved in the Rhyl lifeboat. The smack Ann, of Anlwy, and Elenor, of Conway, driven on shore in Abergele Bay: the captain of the Ann was drowned, but the remainder of both crews were saved. The Cosmopolite, for Buenos Ayres, and the Royal Mail steamship Persia, came in contact in the river, when the former lost fore-topgallant mast, and had bulwarks stove. The steamer received only trifling damage. The brig Commodore, of Whitehaven, from Riga to Newry, with lineage, on shore at East Turbit, near Stranraer, and a total wreck: her crew were saved.

In the Downs the weather is described as having been truly awful, the gale being accompanied by heavy falls of snow, and the sea running tremendously high. Among the many casualties must be enumerated the total loss of the Royal Mail (continental) Steam Packet Company's steamer Violet, on her passage, on Monday night, from Ostend to Dover. The Violet, it appears, left Ostend Harbour, with the Belgian mails on board, between seven and eight o'clock on Monday evening, and was due at Dover at midnight. At daybreak on Tuesday morning a fisherman discovered a wrecked vessel on the outer edge or southern spit of the Goodwin Sands. Her foremast was still standing, and it was evident that she had struck on the Sands during the night. She proved to be the Violet. She was commanded by Captain Lyons, one of the most experienced masters on the station, and manned by a crew of 17 hands. Very few passengers, we believe, were on board.

From abroad we have also news of great calamities at sea. The brig R. D. 273 tons register, left Pernambuco for Liverpool on the 29th of October, with a full cargo of cotton, sugar, &c. On the 31st, at half-past nine p.m., the ship struck on a reef, and instantly began to fill. The sea made a complete breach over the vessel, washed away the boats, and swept the decks. The ship soon began to break up; and some blue lights being burnt, the crew were enabled to scramble on to the rocks. In the morning they observed two small islands at about two miles distant, and that the house attached to part of the ship's deck was accessible. By means of this house, in which were found some damaged stores, the sufferers rafted themselves over to one of the islands. Here, upon a miserable allowance from the damaged stores saved from the wreck—but for the greater part of the time (till they digged a well) suffering all the agonies of thirst—the sufferers remained for a month. Two vessels passed the island in the interim, but either did not notice, or would not answer, the signals on the island. The crew was at length taken off by the English barque Melbourne. Eleven men, however, were drowned in the course of the misfortune.

The New York and Liverpool packet-ship New York went on shore on the night of the 19th ult., two miles from Basnegat inlet. Next morning the second mate and six men succeeded in landing with a rope in one of the ship's boats; the passengers were afterwards landed in safety. The captain (McKinnon) was brutally ill-used and seriously injured by seven of his crew, while endeavouring to suppress insubordination, arising (by some accounts) out of an attempt of his to leave the ship. He snapped a pistol at one man; it missed fire, and he was knocked down; and but for the mate, who stood over him, would have been murdered. The mate also was in great danger, but one of the mutineers took his part. For four days and nights the emigrants, 300 in number, remained without shelter or food of any kind on the bleak coast. In the same gale the brig Tasso, of St. John's, New Zealand, was wrecked. Four of her crew, and two men who had gone off from the beach, were drowned in attempting to get ashore.

The American ship Jane H. Gliddon, from Boston, encountered a fearful gale and sprang a leak in the middle of the Atlantic, and for seven days was half full of water, and was expected to founder every moment. On the seventh day the American ship Kineo came in sight, and had scarcely time to rescue the crew before the ship went down in deep water.

THE SEARCH IN THE NORTH SEA FOR MISSING VESSELS.—Her Majesty's steamers Bulldog and Salamander have arrived at Cromarty from their expedition in search of vessels missing in the North Sea. Captain Gregory, the volunteer pilot on board the Bulldog, reports, we regret to learn, that although the steamers crossed and recrossed the ships' track to the utmost limit mentioned in the instructions from the Admiralty, nothing whatever was seen of the vessels.

THE TOTAL NUMBER of vessels wrecked on the British Coast during the year just terminated was 1,959. Of these ships 265 were wrecked in January, 274 in February, 145 in March, 157 in April, 112 in May, 84 in June, 104 in July, 88 in August, 127 in September, 109 in October, 210 in November, and 294 in December.

TWO NEW WAR SHIPS are about to be built at Pembroke: the one a screw-steamer of 8 guns, the other of 17 guns.

THE QUARTER'S REVENUE.—The revenue returns for the year and quarter ending December 31, 1856, show a very prosperous state of the country's income. It appears that in the last quarter there has been an increase of income in all the following items:—Customs, £525,074; Excise, £212,000; Stamps, £88,231; Taxes, £5,000; Property-tax, £88,091; Post Office, £101,000; Crown Lands, £1,000—the total being £1,020,396; and deducting from these augmentations a decrease in the Miscellaneous Department, the clear increase on the quarter is still £570,921. On the year the account is even better. The increase is thus stated:—Customs, £1,084,073; Excise, £804,315; Stamps, £135,449; Taxes, £2,995; Property-tax, £1,996,861; Post Office, £165,152; Crown Lands, £4,341; total, £4,119,673; and when the Miscellaneous item is again deducted, the clear increase on the year is still £3,977,772. With such a revenue, which was formed, in fact, upon war requisites, to meet a peace expenditure, it is not too much to expect that some reduction will be made in the income-tax. A total of upwards of sixteen millions thus raised within the year, is a brilliant testimony to the wealth and resources of the country; the increase of nearly two millions in the annual proceeds of the tax proves that the limit of its productiveness has not yet been reached; but it is none the less true that the burden has pressed heavily on the classes least able to bear it. The increase in the Post Office, which is very considerable, is matter for congratulation, evidencing, as it does, a steady and satisfactory progress in the diffusion of intelligence, and the facilities of intercourse. Taken as a whole, the results of the financial year just ended must be regarded as a signal proof of the internal prosperity of the country.

OBITUARY.

ROMILLY, LADY.—On the 30th ult., in Hyde Park Gardens, aged 47, died Lady Romilly, wife of Sir John Romilly, Master of the Rolls. Her Ladyship was a daughter of the late Right Rev. Dr. Otter, Lord Bishop of Chester, and sister of the wife of the Right Hon. Edward Strutt, recently created Lord Belper.

WARREN, CHIEF JUSTICE.—On Friday, the 2nd inst., at his residence, Altham Street, died Edward Lee Warren, Esq., late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India. He was sixty-eight years of age. He was a resident in India about thirty-seven years, having been engaged in the East India Company's civil service, and his last appointment was that of Chief Judge. He had retired from the service nearly fourteen years. On the evening of the 1st, he retired to rest apparently in his usual health, and had never been known even to suffer a day's illness.

URX, DR.—Recently, in London, where he has resided since 1830, died Dr. Andrew Ure. He was born in Glasgow, in 1778, and studied at the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh. In 1806, he was appointed Professor of Chemistry and Natural Philosophy in the Andersonian University, Glasgow. He was most successful in his class experiments. In 1821, he published his "Dictionary of Chemistry." In 1822, appeared his paper "On the Ultimate Analysis of Vegetable Substances" in the "Philosophical Transactions." In the year 1829, his "System of Geology" was published. In 1835, his "Philosophy of Manufactures" followed; and, in the following year, his work on the "Cotton Manufactures of Great Britain," in two volumes. His next great work was the "Dictionary of Arts, Manufactures, and Mines," a work of immense labour and research, the last edition of which appeared in the year 1862. This work has been translated into the leading Continental languages. Distinguished as a sound chemical philosopher, he was no less remarkable for accuracy in chemical analysis. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1822. He was one of the original Fellows of the Geological Society.

CORK, BISHOP OF.—On the 6th inst., in his 77th year, died the Right Rev. James Wilson, Bishop of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross. He was a native of Dublin, and having studied in Trinity College, where he took out his degree of A.M. in 1819, he was created Doctor of Divinity in 1830, and was raised to the See of Cork in June 1848. He had for some years previously filled the office of Precentor of the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Dublin. As a working clergyman, his experience was restricted. He indeed filled for seventeen years the curacy of St. Auden's Church, but during that time resided in chambers in Trinity College, and the curacy was almost a sinecure. In 1828, he was appointed Chancellor of Lehigh, and subsequently rector of Killinane. He for some time filled the office of Secretary to the National Board, and for many years acted as examining chaplain to the Archbishop of Dublin. The deceased prelate was popularly esteemed as a learned and pious divine, distinguished for his experience in ecclesiastical affairs, and for a conciliatory and cordial spirit towards those who differed from him in faith.

BRITTON, JOHN, F.S.A.—At Burton Crescent on the 1st inst., died Mr. John Britton, at the age of 86. He was born of humble parents, on July 7, 1771, at Kingston St. Michael, in Wiltshire. In 1787 he quitted the home of his childhood, and accompanied an uncle to the great metropolis. While acting as a cellerman at the Jerusalem Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, he was wont to steal as much time as he could to visit old book-stalls, and make small purchases, which he chiefly read through by candlelight in the cellar. The vicissitudes, privations, and hardships which he experienced at this time were very great. In obscure lodgings, at eighteenpence per week, he indulged in study, and read in bed during the winter evenings, being unable to afford a fire. When in his twenty-second year, he endeavoured in vain to procure employment in the West of England; he thereupon returned to London almost penniless, shoeless, and shirtless, and was engaged as cellerman at the London Tavern, and next as clerk to a widow in Smithfield, and finally to an attorney in Gray's Inn. In 1799 he was engaged by a Mr. Chapman to "write, recte, and sing" at a theatre in Pantion Street, Haymarket, at three guineas per week. From that date his literary career may be said to have commenced. His first production of any importance was a volume on the "The Life and Adventures of Pizarro," suggested by the then popularity of Kotzebue's favourite German drama. In his work on the "Beautiful Wiltshire" he was eminently successful; and his "Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain," and "Cathedral Antiquities of England," gained him a considerable reputation.

OUR NEW MINISTER AT WASHINGTON.—We understand that Lord Napier, now Secretary of Embassy at St. Petersburg, and who was for some time Secretary of Legation at Naples, will be the representative of her Majesty at Washington, on the occasion of the completion of diplomatic intercourse between England and the United States. Lord Napier will leave this country for America on the 7th of February, and will be accompanied by the new consuls to be appointed in the place of those whose exequatur had been withdrawn last summer. Lord Napier was attached to the embassy at Vienna, in August, 1840; appointed paid attaché at Teheran, September, 1842; paid attaché at Constantinople, January, 1843; secretary of legation at St. Petersburg, April, 1852; and secretary of embassy at Constantinople, 1854.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—Captain C. J. B. Hamilton, who formerly represented Aylesbury in Parliament, has intimated that he will compete for the same seat at the next general election.—Another element of bitterness has been thrown into the cauldron of Southampton politics: Mr. T. Falvey, Stamp Duty distributor there, has been suspended from his office by the Board of Inland Revenue, for interfering in the Southampton election, by speaking at public meetings in favour of Mr. Richard Andrews, one of the candidates for the representation of the borough. It is said that Mr. Falvey acted under legal advice. His suspension has called forth considerable "sympathy."—General Sir W. Codrington addressed a meeting of the electors of Greenwich on Monday. The meeting was very stormy, and did not promise to promote the General's interest.—Mr. Baillie Cochrane has been returned for Lanarkshire without opposition.

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE SOUTHAMPTON ELECTION.—Last week we mentioned that Mr. Lankester, one of the chief supporters of Mr. Weggelin, had stated at a public meeting that Lord Palmerston, in conversation with him at Broadlands, had said that Mr. Andrews, the other Liberal candidate, was a "unfit man" to represent the borough in Parliament, and that he ought not to have divided the Liberal interest. Hearing of this, Mr. Andrews wrote to Lord Palmerston, asking whether Mr. Lankester's statement was a correct representation of what took place. Lord Palmerston writes in reply, that he is surprised that Mr. Lankester should have thus made use of a casual remark, dropped in private conversation. His Lordship further goes on to say, however, that while he has a great respect for Mr. Andrews, he does not think him (Mr. Andrews) "so well calculated as Mr. Weggelin to represent Southampton in the House of Commons;" and holding this opinion, his Lordship "cannot but regret that you should, by dividing the Liberal party, endanger the Liberal cause at Southampton."

THE BRITISH BANK.—DIVIDEND SCENE.—Saturday week, being the first day appointed by the Court of Bankruptcy for a division among the creditors of the salvage realised out of the wreck of this unfortunate affair, there was formidable "rush" of all entitled to participate in it, to the head offices, Threadneedle Street. So besieged was the building, that the police had to be called in to assist the officers and porters of the bank. It was, however, difficult to preserve order, in consequence of the presence of a large number of females and others, who, under the influence of exasperated feelings, caused considerable uproar, which was materially augmented by the insubordination of two or three intoxicated creditors, whose conduct compelled those within to close the doors of the bank, and to admit the applicants by only a dozen at a time. This increased the agitation outside, which developed itself in violent demonstrations on the rascality of the concern, while many gave vent to more violent demonstrations by belabouring the brass plates of the "British Bank" with their sticks, umbrellas, and knuckles. Altogether, about 2,000 creditors out of the entire 6,000 were summoned to attend, as far as let on the place. It is supposed that between £100,000 and £200,000 was paid on the day.

EXTRAORDINARY AFFAIR.—An American merchant, Mr. Charles More, was arrested for debt, and put in the prison in the Rue de Clichy, Paris. His case was heard in court; it was found that there was really no ground for detaining him, and he was to have been liberated on Wednesday week. Unfortunately, on that day he presented himself at a second-floor window, contrary to the prison regulations. The sentinel challenged—Mr. More did not answer, and the soldier shot him dead. The French law is unjust enough to permit "provisional arrest" of debtors. Some years since, the present Duke of Nemours, then Lord Lincoln, was arrested for a fabulous sum by a Polish physician and the eminent banker, John Abel Smith, was arrested in his bed in the Rue Vendôme for a debt not due by him.

A MAN SHOT BY HIS BROTHER.—William Snell, aged thirty-five, and brother, were shooting birds in the neighbourhood of Tottenham, when the latter went off accidentally. The charge entered the right thigh of William Snell, who immediately exclaimed, "You have shot me;" and his brother said, "Forgive me," to which, deceased replied, "All right." Immediately after he fell. He was conveyed to the London Hospital, but died soon after admission.

A FRACAS OF A SERIC'S CHARACTER, which was likely to lend to a court-martial, has taken place at Sierra Leone, between the commanders of her Majesty's ships Sappho and Teazer.

MR. BROTHERTON, M.P., whilst riding in an omnibus from his residence Pendleton to Manchester, about eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning, seized with apoplexy and died immediately.

GENERAL KMETZ, the heroic defender of Kars, has just arrived at B where he thinks of turning to account the few months' leave of absence from the Turkish Government has granted him.

A LABOURER employed at Woolwich Dockyard, recently committed suicide most determined manner. Proceeding to the edge of a wharf, he first plunged a knife into his heart, drew it out, and then plunged into the river.

• We are sorry to say that the illness of our entertaining contributor, the "Lammer," has prevented him from supplying us this week with his usual column. The notices of the Monthly Magazines are on this account deferred till our next number.

ANSWERS TO PICTORIAL CONUNDRUMS IN OUR LAST NUMBER.

1. Because he has a Dutch cheese and a Stilt-on.
2. Because it is a saw-sage (sausage).
3. Because that is only a saucer, while he is a sorcerer.
4. It would be a ham-let.
5. One is a fat knight and the other a night fat.
6. Because a single wine-glass is made to hold a Punch-on.
7. Because he's a weekly boarder.
8. Because it is a joint production.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1857.

RECENT NAVAL DISCUSSIONS.

SINCE we had occasion to express our mingled contempt and disgust at the way in which certain persons were handling Sir Charles Napier, the world has been treated to a good deal of nautical revelation. The grand old Dundonald has published a letter, and a friend of Deans Dundas has vindicated that Admiral. We do not think the world is quite up to the fact, that a most disagreeable uncertainty hangs over naval affairs at present. Naval men do not know what to think about their profession, however zealous for its honour; and for this reason:—The Russian war, which threw light on so many army questions, left navy questions pretty much as they were before. It did not settle the "stone walls" point, and it did not show us how our navy has been affected relatively to other navies by the progress of steam. In addition to this, it brought no changes with it in naval administration, which is still in the hands of an unreformed Board of Admiralty, with a joker for a Secretary. . . . Such being the disagreeable predicament of that honourable service, we are anxious to remind the public of its condition; and the Dundas vindication affords an opportunity of bringing it before them.

We do not think the Black Sea Dundas has had fair play. There was early shown a disposition to shift blame on to his shoulders—as, indeed, nearly everybody seems to have skulked his own share of consequences when he could. We are bound to give him credit for what is shown in his behalf in the recent performance alluded to above. And, first, he got the army embarked, and had men-of-war to protect the convoy, in a manner which the French (whose men-of-war were crowded with troops) could not have imitated. Next, the landing—as far as regarded the naval part of it—was certainly good. And, thirdly, the aid to the wounded, and the supplies, and the brigade furnished by him, were important contributions to the success of the army.

But why did he not better storm Sebastopol from the sea? Here we come to the curious story about the French Admiral's co-operation. After Dundas had sent large parts of his crews to serve ashore, he was called on to take the naval share of a bombardment. It was fixed for the 16th of October. The plan was arranged and made known to the captains, and then suddenly changed that very night by the French naval Commander-in-Chief. Instead of keeping in motion during the attack, the fleet was to anchor across the harbour's mouth. The distrust which everybody expressed of the wisdom of this change was justified by the event. Great risk was incurred, and little gained. In the same way Dundas proposed to destroy Odessa; and again the French "changed their minds," and we had to change with them. It is obvious that there are other such chapters of history to come, and that we shall do well to suspend our opinions of other men, till we know what share in their doings or misdoings was taken by our Allies.

But the question of our Admiral's reputation is not so important as other questions which the war bequeathed us. The great one is that of Stone versus Wooden Walls. In old times opinion was against the wooden walls, till Blake changed it; then it veered round again, till Algiers once more changed it. Now, opinion—and we are bound to say the best opinion—is against the wooden walls once more; and yet at Bomarsund and Sweaborg there were not wanting skilful observers to pronounce that the ships might have done a great deal that was never attempted. Lord Dundonald, in a letter which we printed last week, touches this as well as other points. With true generosity he defends Napier, and shows that what the world asked of him had really never been performed, under the same conditions, by anybody else. And he gives a decided opinion on the probable effect on a fleet, of such a fire of red-hot shot as is now to be expected from attacked fortresses. He alludes also, of course, to the neglect of his own invention,—which, however, will surprise nobody who knows anything of Downing Street.

Let the world clearly understand, that the navy of the nineteenth century has not yet had a fair trial; that in the Black Sea our Admiral was thwarted on important occasions by a French colleague; that with the progress of science the balance seems to have turned against ships in attacking shore batteries, and that no experiment of the truth of this apparent fact has yet been made; that old officers, like Dundonald, are becoming anxious about our future supply of seamen; and that, finally, with all these difficulties pressing on us, naval men grumble as much as ever at the nepotism, red-tapery, and incompetence of that Board of Admiralty, under the government of which we have to face all the possible dangers of these rapidly-developing times.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY AND THE COURT are still at Windsor. On New Year's Day her Majesty superintended the distribution of her Royal bounty to about 800 poor people in the Kiding School. Food and clothing were distributed to this large number of recipients.

A RETURN OF THE POPULATION OF THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS OF FRANCE, recently published in the "Moniteur," gives a grand total of 36,039,364 inhabitants.

ON CHRISTMAS DAY a gift was presented to the "Scotsman" newspaper, in the shape of duly stamped receipts for the damages and whole expenses, amounting to nearly £1,200, to which that newspaper was made liable by a recent prosecution of it, at the instance of Mr. Duncan McLaren.

THE ROMAN INQUISITION has issued an encyclical letter declaring that the Church does not admit the practice of animal magnetism.

A HEAVY FRESH IN THE RIVER WEAR, on Wednesday week, did damage to the amount of £1,000, among the shipping in the harbour at Sunderland.

A CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION in the Adjutant-General's and Quartermaster-General's departments at the Horse Guards is contemplated, to bring down the establishment more nearly to the standard before the war.

THE VIENNA "CHURCH GAZETTE," a rampant Ultramontane organ, has received a first warning from the police; a third warning extinguishes an Austrian newspaper.

THREE AND A-HALF TONS OF CONTRABAND TOBACCO AND SNUFF were recently found in the possession of an apprentice at Shields. It was packed up in 139 bales, like bolts of canvas. The lad's uncle fled when the seizure was made, and has not been apprehended.

A BULLET WAS LATELY FIRED through the door of the gamekeeper's lodge, at Hylton Castle, near Durham, with the evident intent of shooting the gamekeeper in bed, but the bullet passed over the bed, and fell flattened from the opposite wall.

THE REV. DR. BICKERSTETH has been formally elected Bishop of Ripon, at a Chapter in Ripon Cathedral. Dr. Bickersteth will be confirmed in York Minster on the 17th inst., and consecrated at Bishopthorpe, near York, on the 18th.

IT APPEARS THAT GOA, a Portuguese possession on the western coast of India, is about to be ceded to the British Empire.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA has ordered that the passport system shall be simplified. Some improvements have already been made.

A LINE OF CLIFFER SHIPS is about to be established between Havre and Bombay.

MR. JOHN SCOTT RUSSELL has offered to tender for the repairs of the whole British navy.

A LARGE SEAL WAS SHOT IN THE THAMES last week.

A BAG, containing £3,000, in paper and bullion, was last week picked up in Bradford, by a young man and woman; on taking it to the owner they were rewarded with £3.

OWING TO THE DIFFICULTIES OF MR. THOMAS BRIGGS, income-tax collector at North Shields, the burghesses have been called upon to repay their taxes of 1854-5. An "indignation" meeting has been held in consequence, and they intend to try the matter by law.

JAMES JACKSON, the principal warden at Millbank Prison, committed suicide last week by taking prussic acid.

LORD GRANVILLE, it is confidently reported in the clubs, will shortly replace Lord Carlisle in the Lord-Lieutenancy of Ireland.

A VOCAL ASSOCIATION has just been founded, apparently with the object of emulating the Cologne Union. M. Benedict has been appointed conductor of the association, which already numbers 200 members.

DESERTERS FROM THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS, quartered in the Tower, have been unusually frequent lately. They are said to arise from excessive drill.

THE MYRA, OF SUNDRELAND, was totally consumed by fire on her way to Egypt with a cargo of coals from Newcastle. The catastrophe appears to have resulted from spontaneous combustion. The crew escaped.

TWO GAROTT ROBBRIES are reported this week in the streets of Derby, both during the evening; and the victim in each case was an invalid.

A MARRIAGE BETWEEN COUNT DE MOBYN and MISS HATTON, a Parisian-bred American lady, has, it is reported, at length been agreed upon, after a long discussion arising out of the differences of religion.

THE BATON OF FIELD-MARSHAL will shortly be conferred on his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, we hear. It is believed that this highest military rank will be accorded at the same time to Lord Seaton and Lord Gough.

THE BOARD OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY have appointed Messrs M. and G. Rendel, sons of the late Mr. Rendel, C.E., to fill the office vacated by the death of the eminent engineer, their father.

THE USE OF POODLES has at length been discovered—in America, of course. A lady having lost one of these pets, advertised her bereavement. The next day a police officer restored the animal, but in a very wet and dirty condition. "Oh! Mr. Officer," cried the delighted owner, "where did you find the dear baby?" "Why, ma'am, a big nigger up in Sullivan Street had him tied to a pole, and was washing windows with him."

A BED OF FOSSILS—fungi, algi, and fuci—has been recently discovered in a farm, at Tingewick, Bucks.

A TESTIMONIAL TO MR. CHARLES MANLY—who, having filled the post of secretary to the Institution of Civil Engineers for twenty-seven years, is now about to retire—has been proposed.

THE RUMOUR THAT MR. SIDNEY HERBERT has inherited any part of the property of the late Prince Woronzow, is, we now hear, without foundation.

TAHITI is about to be abandoned by the French Government. The colony, it is said, costs a great deal, and produces nothing.

THE RESOLUTE ARCTIC DISCOVERY SHIP, has been lashed alongside the shear-hulk at Chatham Dockyard, where she remains an object of great interest. It is understood to be the intention of the Admiralty to have her stripped and placed in ordinary at Chatham.

THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION is now fixed for June or July of this year.

MR. BRUFF, the engineer of the Eastern Counties Railway, has resigned his office. The reason alleged is that the new board has discharged some 400 of the men employed in the works and reparations of the line.

A GRAND PUBLIC BANQUET took place on the 18th at Stockholm, on the occasion of the unanimous rejection by the Diet of the bill for striking out from the constitution the law on the liberty of the press.

THE CREW OF A VESSEL, wrecked in Torres Straits recently, discovered gold on that coast.

THE BANK OF MELLISH AND CO., at Godalming, has been burglariously entered, and £290 in silver, a small sum in Bank of England notes, and some valuable securities, stolen.

PROFESSOR SAFFI is to lecture on the 15th and 22nd inst., at the Literary Institution, Edward's Street, Portman Square, on the Italian nation, its rulers, its revolutions, their causes and failure—in fact, "Italy as it is, and as it is to be."

DEPUTATIONS from Bohemia, Hungary, Trieste, and Venice, are urging the Austrian Minister of Finance to permit the establishment of provincial banks of issue.

SIGNOR CRIVELLI, son of a once-famous tenor at the Opera House, and himself a most successful singing-master, died last week in London.

A DEBTOR IN THE COUNTY JAIL, named William Frankias, aged fifty-six, died on Sunday, reduced almost to a skeleton, from having refused for some time to take the proper amount of nourishment.

THE ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN, in the House of Commons, in reply to the Royal Speech, will, it is said, be moved by Sir W. Williams, and seconded by the Marquis of Stafford. In the Lords the same duties will be assigned to the Marquis of Townsend, as mover, and the Earl of Cork, as seconder.

CAPTAIN CHARLES EDEN, C.B., is appointed a First-class Commodore for Coastguard service. It is reported he will hoist his broad pendant on board the Wellington.

THE MOVEMENT AGAINST THE INCOME-TAX is gaining broader proportions every day. In several parishes of the metropolis, at Abingdon, at Stowmarket, Bridgewater, Frome, and elsewhere, the tax has been loudly condemned.

A COLLISION occurred in the railway tunnel, between Stafford and Rugeley, last week; but luckily, the one train carried luggage, and the other coals. Both the driver and the stoker of the coal-train were, however, seriously injured.

A MEMORIAL TO RICHARD III. has been erected at Bow Bridge, Leicester. It is a handsome stone tablet, cut in the gable of one of the new bridges there. The inscription thus runs:—"Near this spot lie the remains of Richard III., the last of the Plantagenets, 1485."

A TRIANGULAR PIECE OF WINDOW GLASS was recently extracted from out the throat of a little child at Kirkcubbin, Dumfries.

AN OLD MAN died of starvation and cold last week at Dudley, Worcestershire. He was found lying in the road, quite exhausted.

THE RUSSIAN ENVOY AT CARLSRUHE has signed the marriage contract between the Archduke Michael of Russia and the Princess Cicely of Baden.

A NEW GOLD FIELD has been discovered on Kangaroo Island, South Australia.

ASSASSINATION OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS.

THE Archbishop of Paris, whilst officiating in the church of St. Etienne-du-Mont on Saturday evening, was murdered by a priest.

Saturday was the fête of Ste. Geneviève, and the Archbishop went to the church, according to announcement, to preside over the opening of the annual *neuvaine* in honour of the saint, who is patroness of the city of Paris. After vespers, and after a sermon preached by Mgr. Lacarrière, bishop of La Basse-Terre, a procession was formed, and paraded round the church in the customary way, the Archbishop in his robes walking at the head of the lady patronesses of Ste. Geneviève. Just as the Archbishop arrived opposite the outer-door and was about to turn up the nave, a man advanced towards him from the crowd of spectators, and removing the prelate's cope with his left hand, with his right plunged a large Catalan knife into the prelate's breast, near the heart, exclaiming as he did so, "Down with the Goddess!" (*A bas la déesse.*) The Archbishop fell back two steps, cried out, "*Ah, le malheureux!*" staggered, and fell into the arms of the priests who surrounded him. The wounded prelate moaned two or three times, as if in great suffering, and was the moment after bathed in the blood which flowed from the wound. He was immediately conveyed into the vestry and medical assistance sent for; but he expired almost immediately. The fatal blow was struck with such extraordinary rapidity that it was impossible to prevent it. The assassin, a young man of about thirty years of age, dressed in dark-coloured clothes, made no attempt to escape, and was immediately seized; he had at the moment the knife, from which blood was dropping, still in his hand. Just before the venerable prelate breathed his last, the Abbé Surat, vicar-general, who was close to him, gave him absolution.

The assassin was conveyed to the mairie of the 12th arrondissement and examined. It appears that he is a priest of the diocese of Meaux, named Verges. He had been four or five times interdicted for misconduct, and some months back was again suspended for having preached against the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. In November last he displayed great zeal in defending a woman who was tried at Melun for poisoning her husband, and though she was convicted of the crime, and condemned to hard labour for life, he printed a pamphlet declaring that she was innocent, and casting the grossest imputations on the judges and the public prosecutor. The pamphlet was seized by the authorities before it could be distributed, and it caused a new complaint to be made against him to his bishop. A little later, he uttered menaces against a respected clergyman of the diocese of Paris, who had done him many kindnesses; and the clergyman deemed it necessary to make representation to the police. On the 24th of December the man came to Paris, and took up his residence there. He was accustomed to pass days in the public libraries; and even on Saturday he went to one as usual. He endeavoured to obtain an appointment in the diocese of Paris, but it was notified to him that the Archbishop would not grant him one. On hearing that, he appears to have projected the death of the prelate, and he purchased for the purpose a knife at the shop of a cutler in the Rue Dauphine.

At the examination he was asked if he had stabbed the Archbishop more than once, and he answered "No; I only gave him one stab, for I struck in the heart, and knew the blow was mortal." "Why," he was asked, "did you cry 'Down with the goddess!' when you struck the fatal blow?" "Because I do not believe in the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, against which I have preached from the pulpit; and I wished to protest once more against the impious doctrine." "Why did you commit so grave a crime?" "Because I was interdicted, and because the Archbishop had declared that the interdiction would not be removed." He then added, after a pause, "A priest cannot be allowed to die of hunger." He admitted that he had gone to the church with the premeditated intention of killing the Archbishop; and he then several times cried, with some violence, "No goddess! no goddess!" One of the gentlemen who interrogated him, remarked that the crime which he had committed was one of frightful enormity. "Yes," he exclaimed, "it is frightful!" and then tears fell from his eyes. He begged for a New Testament, and said, "I shall have great need of it during the night."

The assassin replied to the questions put to him with calmness, and only displayed agitation when he referred to the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception. His features are full of expression. In the course of the evening he was conveyed to the Conciergerie, and a turnkey was placed with him in his cell. On examining his dress, some pamphlets on the Immaculate Conception controversy were found fastened in his coat.

The body of the deceased Archbishop was removed to the archiepiscopal palace, in the Rue Grenelle St. Germain. After embalming, the body lay in state, and the public were admitted to see it. The weapon which the murderer used was so long that it would have been difficult to carry it in a pocket. It is asserted that he concealed it in a large bouquet which he held in his hand as he approached his victim. Verges is in Mazas prison.

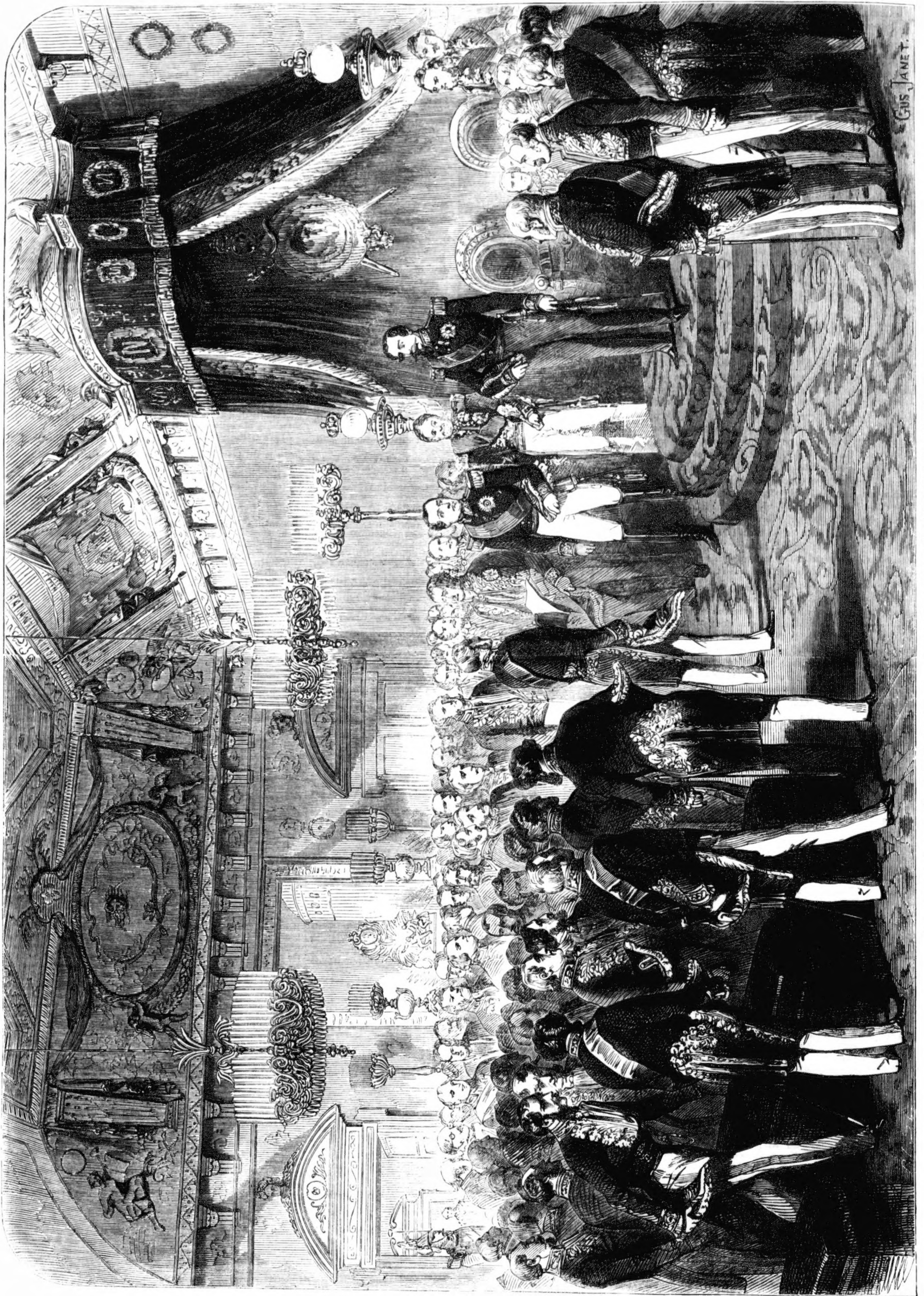
Monsieur Sibour, the Archbishop, was born at St. Paul-Trois-Châteaux, in the diocese of Valence, on April 4, 1792; he was consequently in his 65th year. He was consecrated bishop of Digne on February 25, 1840, and was appointed to be the head of the diocese of Paris by the Government of General Cavaignac, upon the death of Archbishop Affre, who was killed by a musket-shot at one of the barricades near the Rue St. Antoine during the sanguinary conflict which ensued on the Communist insurrection of June, 1848. The Archbishop had gone to the scene of carnage with the intention of appealing to the populace, and entreating them to desist from further bloodshed. The Church of St. Etienne-du-Mont is in the near neighbourhood of the Pantheon.

RECEPTION OF THE FRENCH SENATE BY THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

ON New Year's Day, the Emperor Napoleon received the members of the French Senate at the Tuileries. The ceremonial observed on this occasion was similar to that of last year. First of all the Princes and Princesses of the Imperial family having rank at Court were received by their Majesties in the apartments of the Empress. The Grand Officers of the Crown, the Grand Mistress of the Empress's Household, the Governors of the "Children of France," and the other functionaries, male and female; the Princess Mathilde, the General commanding the Imperial Guard, the Adjutant-General of the Palace, and the Aide-de-Camp on duty, were assembled in the principal saloon, or Salon des Tapisseries. In the second saloon, near the Salle des Gardes, were the officers of the households of their Majesties and of their Imperial Highnesses; in the Throne-room, the Cardinals, the Ministers, the Marshals of France, the Admirals, the Grand Chancellor of the Order of the Legion of Honour, and the Governor of the Invalides; in the Salon d'Apollon, all the officers of the households of the Imperial family not on service; and in the Salon Blanc the Almoner and Chaplains of the Emperor, the Secretaries, Treasurers, &c.

At twelve o'clock the magistrates repaired to the Chapel of the Palace, preceded by the grand dignitaries of the Crown, and followed by Prince Jerome, Prince Napoleon, the Princess Mathilde, the Princes and Princesses of the Empire holding rank at Court, and the grand officers of the household. The Emperor and Empress occupied the central gallery; the Princes to the right of the Emperor, the Princesses to the left of the Empress; and behind was the Grand Marshal of the Palace, the First Almoner on his right, and on his left the Grand Chamberlain, with the other functionaries placed in order of rank.

When Divine Service had been performed, the Emperor and Empress entered their apartments in the same order as they left them. At one o'clock the Emperor entered the Throne-room, where the members of the Diplomatic Corps were standing opposite the throne. The Emperor passed before them, and they were presented in turn by the Grand Master of the Ceremonies. They then retired by the *Galerie de Diane*. The Senate and Legislative body were next presented, then followed the reception of the civil authorities, the National Guard, and the Army. The General Commandant of the National Guard of the Department and his staff, the officers of battalions of the National Guard of Paris and the *banlieue*, the staff of the Minister of War, and other military bodies, representing every arm of the service, were all successively presented. The receptions lasted till half-past two o'clock.



NEW-YEAR'S DAY IN PARIS: THE RECEPTION OF THE FRENCH SENATE BY THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON III.

GUS JANET.



WINTER: THE MONSTER SNOWBALL.

WINTER: THE MONSTER SNOW-BALL.

WE have as yet had no snow in London worth mentioning. The other day a few flakes came floating through the smoky air, and melted directly they touched the ground, making the pavements dirty, and affording the ladies a sufficient excuse for holding up their dresses, and showing at least three stripes of their red linsey woolsey petticoats. But we have had none of those heavy falls of snow which come down silently in the night, and startle you when you awake in the morning, at finding your room brilliant with the reflected light, as if a huge Chappuis reflector had been fastened up before the window.

From the north we hear that the whole country is as white as a wedding-cake. We read of terrible snow storms on the Yorkshire moors, and of flocks of sheep being buried alive and suffocated into mutton. An elderly lady, with whom we are on tea-drinking terms, went chilly as we read the newspaper paragraph to her, and we observed that the skin on her neck turned what schoolboys call "goosey," that is, it became rough, and gave you the impression that she had once grown feathers, and that she had been lately plucked. She asked whether frozen sheep were good to eat.

Our artist, who comes from Yorkshire, has given us an illustration of one of the few enjoyments which boys manage to squeeze out of their winter miseries. The landscape represents a village situated on the high-way which leads to Chesterfield. If you were to go to the end of those wooden palings, at the side of the road with the cart ruts, you would find written on one arm of the sign-post at the corner, "To Chesterfield," and on the other, "To Sheffield." And on looking across the moors you would see the tall chimneys of the cutlers' town sending out their black fathoms of soot, and adding to the canopy of smoke suspended over the city. No doubt Mr. Roebuck, the M.P. for Sheffield, will instantly recognise this scene. If he doesn't, our artist will oppose him at the next general election.

The story of the engraving is this:—Those little boys are a set of young rascals in a very healthy and high fed condition, who are constantly getting into mischief, and frightening their fond parents into momentary convulsions by their bad behaviour. They are all portraits, and our artist is personally acquainted with them and their owners. The young gentleman with the basket was sent out to carry some groceries which were wanted in a great hurry by a very respectable lady, and an excellent customer, who resides about a mile down the road on the right hand. He was allowed to take his little sister with him, on condition that he would run all the way, and not let her catch cold, for though his mother has an invaluable recipe for chilblains, yet she dreads them as she does a loaded gun. Now, instead of putting his little sister into a glow with exercise, the lad is allowing the pretty lamb to congeal slowly, and by the time she returns home her little hands and feet will be as red as holly berries. The young gentleman in black with the white hat is the village staymaker's eldest boy. He was from a child always delicate, and standing in the snow, with his hand in his pockets, is not exactly the way to improve his health. His mother, as she tied the comforter round his neck, made him promise on his word and honour that he would go to school as fast as he could. His punishment is at hand, for the big vulgar lad behind him—the collier's eldest, and one of thirteen—is about to send a snow-ball, as big as a Dutch cheese, right into his neck, where it will melt and trickle down his back, and lay the foundation of a tiresome cough. This young gentleman is the very same one that gave Mr. Mulready his first idea of the boy in his celebrated picture of "The Wolf and the Lamb."

All the other boys are more or less scamps who have no dread of cold, and think their little cloaks and small great-coats "bores." These same lads are very fond of running out in the rain, and of walking through puddles. They also make dirt-pies, and suck raw eggs. As it is winter, and there is no mud to soil their clothes with, they are forced to make the most they can out of the snow, and amuse themselves the best way they can with that cleanly but damp material. The four little urchins who have constructed the monster snow-ball are terrible young plagues, and unprincipled marble-players and button-pitchers, cheating at every opportunity. If they were not rolling the snow-ball along, they would be fighting or urging on dogs to single combats. The third lad, with the cuffs on, is the butcher's boy, and is known to have once locked his mother's cat up in the clean linen closet, and forgotten to take it out again. It was fortunately discovered on the sixth day, through the lad's spilling a quart of black porter on the table-cloth, and rendering a clean one necessary. When liberated, the cat ate nearly all the cold mutton in the larder, the door of which this wicked boy had carelessly left open. That urchin, though he was flogged three times, still persisted that he never shut the cat up, but fixed the blame upon the very same youth who is shivering in the background, and who, being of a mild disposition, was not able to repel the charge with sufficient vehemence to save himself from five vigorous birchings, in the last of which the rod flew to pieces, and fell in a shower of twigs.

In the background some of the lads may be seen who have been studying snow sculpture. They have brought out with them a kitchen chair and a spade, and by their joint efforts succeeded in erecting a very remarkable figure, whose magnitude is more impressive than its elegance. The pipe has been stuck into the mouth with a masterly hand. If their studies had not been stopped by the sudden appearance of the stern-looking man with the stick, no doubt the snow statue would have been more highly finished, especially about the arms and legs.

A young friend of ours, who is home for the holidays, has been kind enough to favour us with the following recipe for making a snow-ball. He is in the Blue-coat School, and he tells us that all the yellow-legged boys in that mysteriously-clothed establishment invariably make and employ their congealed missiles in this manner:

"Take up as much snow as you can hold in both hands, and then stick a stone in the middle. Now squeeze it together, till it goes regularly hard and crisp. Keep on adding snow till it's jolly large; and when it's as hard as a cricket-ball, send it bang, with all your might, against the first person that isn't looking. It's sure to sting like fun."

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. LIVINGSTONE.—On Monday afternoon a public meeting was held in the Egyptian Hall, Mansion House, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Dr. Livingstone, the philanthropic African traveller. The Lord Mayor presided, and the Lady Mayoress and a large and influential company were present. Resolutions expressing the congratulations of the citizens, and their intention to create a "Livingstone Testimonial Fund," were submitted to the meeting by the Bishop of London, Mr. Raikes Currie, the Rev. Canon Champney, Sir R. Murchison, Mr. S. Gurney, Mr. Gordon Cumming, and other gentlemen. Dr. Livingstone, who was received with great enthusiasm, stated that he intended to write an account of his travels, to which he referred those present for more minute information. The Zambesi river would, he said, form a great highway into Southern Africa. Proceeding upwards as far as Sena, they would find a large mountain, beyond which the river was between one and two miles broad. The valleys were exceedingly fertile, and, indeed, all the country to the north was of the same character. There they grew the sugar cane, and cotton and indigo grew wild. Some interesting specimens of fibre he had brought home with him. On passing through the gorge one came to a coal-field, some of the seams of which showed the traces of volcanic action, for they were charred. There were altogether on the surface eleven seams, one of which he measured, and found to be fifty-eight inches in diameter. Round this coal-field there was a gold-field; gold in a state of very minute diffusion was found in the streams. With respect to our own Caffre wars, he did not mean to say much; but they always wanted a "Times" commissioner out there, and he believed that if one of these gentlemen had been intrusted with a mission before the last war, this country would have saved more than £2,000,000 sterling. Dr. Livingstone mentioned that a speech of Sir R. Murchison's, sent out to him during his travels, anticipated the true shape of the country he had traversed, as low in the centre with elevated sides; and concluded, amid much applause, by again referring the audience to his book for further information. The subscriptions announced in the course of the evening amounted to £400, of which the London Missionary Society contributed £100.

THE ROYAL FAMILY OF OUDÉ.—Despatches have recently been forwarded to India, by which a pension is assigned to the Royal Family of Oudé on a most liberal scale. If report be correct, the grant amounts to twelve lakhs of rupees, or £120,000 per annum, and is in perpetuity. It is said that there is, further, provision for attaining the commutation of five lakhs of the stipend for jagher, or territorial property, yielding that sum annually.

TWO ENGLISH SWINDLERS, calling themselves "Lord Arthur John Hudson, and Sir Charles Miller," have been practising successfully on the credulity and tut-hunting tendencies of the republicans of Pittsburgh, United States. They were arrested, to the satisfaction of their numerous victims.

Literature.

The Life and Correspondence of Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B. By J. W. KAYE. 2 vols. Smith, Elder and Co.

WE cannot congratulate the author of the volumes before us on having executed his biographical work in a satisfactory manner. Mr. Kaye expresses his belief that "the history of India can be but imperfectly understood without an understanding also of the character of Sir John Malcolm;" and such being his conviction, we do not, of course, feel any surprise that he should have entered upon his task as biographer with ardour and zeal. We are bound to say, however, that he has allowed his enthusiasm to get the better of his judgment, and added another to the numerous instances of biographers attempting to conceal their own slender abilities, by expressing boundless admiration for the celebrated men whose lives they too rashly undertake to illustrate. Mr. Kaye, not capable perhaps of painting Sir John Malcolm as he was, insists on depicting him as a hero—an Admirable Crichton—and one of the most remarkable men of a remarkable age. We must say that the result of this mode of treatment is rather unfortunate. The foolish weakness of the biographer is reflected on his subject, and something like ridicule is brought on the memory of a man who did little to deserve it. Sir John Malcolm, in fact, was no more entitled to be treated as a great hero than Mr. Kaye is to be considered an entertaining writer; but he was a man with a good head, a generous heart, right principles, a thorough affection for his kindred, a strong ambition to rise in the world, and enough of that energy which is hope in action, to accomplish this object with credit to himself and advantage to his patrons. A rapid glance at his career will give our readers some faint idea what manner of man Mr. Kaye's hero was.

Malcolm came from a respectable Scotch family, which appears to have cherished some tradition about being sprung from the Malcolms of Lachore, in Fifeshire. Mr. Kaye considerably refrains from pressing the point; and we daresay the descent is quite imaginary. At all events, the earliest of the line to which we are introduced is Malcolm's grandfather, who figured as minister of a parish, of which the revenues were so small that, to make both ends meet, he rented the sheep farm of Burnfoot. The son of this rural divine was intended for his father's profession; but a defect of articulation dispelled the prospect of "wagging his head in a pulpit," and he became farmer of Burnfoot. The wife of this Scottish worthy proved, if anything, inconveniently prolific; and, as time passed on, she made him father of ten sons and seven daughters—a family large enough, in all conscience, to daunt the boldest calculator on the probabilities of the future. With a view of making provision for them, he engaged in speculations, which were rather unlucky; and he was thus involved in serious embarrassments.

Of the numerous brood of children with which Providence had blessed the farmer of Burnfoot, John Malcolm, the fourth son, drew his first breath in 1769, "on the day after the birth of Wellington," says Mr. Kaye, and adds, "It was emphatically a year of heroes; Napoleon Bonaparte was born in the same year." How to educate so many sons, with such narrow means, might have been puzzling; but at Wester Kirk, in which Burnfoot is situated, there was a good parish school, and on its rude benches young Malcolm was, in due time, placed to pick up what learning he could among the sons of the labourers and artisans of the district. While at this rustic seminary, he was conspicuous, less for studious habits than a certain quickness of parts, which enabled him to prepare his lessons as he trudged up the hills, and for a kind of fearless activity which often led him into mischief. According to tradition, "Jock" was the scapegrace and scapegoat of the school. When any wild pranks took place, "the Dominic" was invariably in the habit of exclaiming, "Jock's at the bottom of it." The schoolmaster, says Mr. Kaye, "lived to address his pupil as Sir John. There is an anecdote in the family, that on the appearance of his 'History of Persia,' Malcolm sent a copy of it to Mr. Graham, with an inscription, on the fly-leaf, of 'Jock's at the bottom of it.'"

While in his twelfth year, Malcolm was destined for a military career in the East; and by the influence of the Johnstones of Alva, a nomination to the service of the East India Company was procured. While preparing to cross the Border under the auspices of Mr. John Pasley, his maternal uncle, the boy exhibited a spirited confidence in his fortunes: "Now, Jock, my man," said his old nurse, as she took leave of him, "be sure when ye are awa' ye kaim yer head, and keep yer face clean; if ye dinna, ye'll just be sent home agen." "Tut, woman," was the answer, "ye're aye sae feard; ye'll see, if I were awa' among strangers, I'll just do well enough."

Malcolm left his Eskdale home for London, and soon exhibited his spirit and confidence in a remarkable manner. When taken to the India House, in 1781, it was doubtful whether so mere a boy would pass. As had been anticipated, he was in danger of being rejected on account of his extreme youth. However, one of the Directors asked, "Why, my little man, what would you do if you were to meet Hyder Ali?" "Do, sir!" unhesitatingly answered the young aspirant; "I would out with my sword and cut off his head." Mr. Kaye tells us that the spirit of the boy atoned for his lowly stature, and that was granted to his big words which would have been denied to his few inches.

Malcolm's first commission was dated October, 1781, but he did not sail for India till some months later. On arrival at Madras, he was employed in such services as his youth admitted of his fulfilling; and, in 1792, he joined the camp of Lord Cornwallis before Seringapatam. Having already acquired a knowledge of the Persian language, he was nominated interpreter to some native troops, and, having thus, as Mr. Kaye says, planted his foot on the ladder of preferment, he was henceforth employed on the staff.

While Malcolm was working his way upward, and directing his attention to Eastern diplomacy, Lord Wellesley, in 1798, became Governor-General of India. The new Viceroy, perceiving that the young officer was possessed of activity and intelligence, appointed him to proceed on a mission to Persia. He was successful in concluding an alliance with "the King of Kings," and continued gradually to advance his fortunes till the appointment of Lord Cornwallis as successor to Lord Wellesley.

A critical period for Malcolm was this change of viceroys. He had received much favour from Lord Wellesley; he had ardently supported that Nobleman's Indian policy; he was decidedly in favour of a further extension of British conquests; and he had even adopted the celebrated maxim of Clive, "To stop is dangerous, to recede ruin." Such being the state of the case, and the policy of the new Viceroy being to give peace to India, Lord Wellesley, when about to leave Calcutta, expressed a hope that Malcolm would accompany him to England. Malcolm hesitated between a sense of gratitude to his Noble Patron, and a feeling of what was best for his own interest. At length, after a sore trial, he arrived at the convenient conclusion that "he could in no way so well prove his attachment to Lord Wellesley as by remaining at his post to carry out his Lordship's policy;" and having intimated his resolution to that effect, he prepared to worship the rising sun.

Mr. Kaye states that Lord Cornwallis had from the first expressed a doubt whether Malcolm would co-operate with him; but on this point the vice-regal mind was soon relieved. Indeed, Malcolm addressed to the new Governor-General a letter, which a hero would hardly have written under the circumstances, promising respect and deference to the better judgment of his superior, and declaring that he would be surpassed by none in zeal and obedience. Ere long he had reason to repent of his promise. The policy pursued by Lord Wellesley's successor was such as to place Malcolm in an awkward predicament. But at a critical period, in the autumn of 1805, Lord Cornwallis died; and some time later a new governor-general appeared in the person of Lord Minto.

At the eventful period when Malcolm's Noble Countryman arrived in India, a French invasion loomed in the distance. The peace of Tilsit had converted the Czar and Napoleon into friends and allies; and apprehensions were entertained that the latter would enter upon a career of oriental conquest. The alarm was sufficient to keep our Indian statesmen on the alert; and the peril, real or imaginary, suggested the expediency of raising every barrier, in the intervening countries, to the progress of an enemy advancing from the West.

"Those countries were the Punjab, Afghanistan, and Persia. To each Lord Minto determined to despatch a friendly mission. It is no small proof of his

discernment that his choice fell on three such men as Metcalfe, Elphinstone, and Malcolm. The two first were then young, and comparatively untried men; but it seemed a mere matter of course that the last should be sent to Persia. Who had equal experience of the Persian Court—who was held in such esteem there—who had personal qualities so likely to secure success in such a conjuncture—who so conciliatory when conciliation was required—who so vigorous when there was need of vigour? There was more difficult work now for a Persian envoy than there had been eight years before, when Z-maum Shah was to be checked—that a king of shreds and patches, who was cheek-mating himself. But Malcolm was equal to higher duties, capable of more arduous labours. For years had brought enlarged experience and a ripe judgment, detracting nothing from the energy and elasticity of his youth. What missions he had conducted in the interval—what lessons of diplomacy he had learned—what an accession of self-reliance he had gained! Was it possible that Lord Minto could think of any other man to conduct a new embassy to the Persian Court?"

Malcolm was of course appointed, but his mission proved most unfortunate. The English Ministry had, at the time, resolved on taking the relations with Persia into their own hands; and Harford Jones, a Welshman, who had resided many years, in a mixed political and commercial capacity, in the Persian Gulf, was created a baronet, and despatched as ambassador to the Court of Teheran. Having reached Bombay when Malcolm was in Persia, Jones waited for news of the rival envoy's failure, and then proceeded on his mission. Strangely enough, he succeeded where Malcolm had failed; and he established friendly relations between the Court of St. James's and the Court of Teheran. While Jones was still in Persia, Malcolm was sent thither a third time, and received with great favour by the King. As Ambassador, he accomplished nothing; but his "History of Persia," and Persian sketches, were the results of his visits; and he ever afterwards felt a warm interest in the politics of the country. His opinion on the subject is—especially at the present time—of great value; and generally, he seems to have considered that it was expedient for Persia to subsist as an independent kingdom, interposing between the Asiatic provinces of Russia and English empire in Hindostan.

In 1812, Malcolm, who was now a husband and a father, returned to England, was honoured with knighthood, and met with a flattering reception. While on a visit to his native country, he encountered Sir Walter Scott in the grounds at Dalkeith; and the great Minstrel has given an account of their meeting in a letter to Mr. Morritt:—

"I am delighted with your Cumberland admirer, and give him credit for his visit to the vindicator of Homer; but you missed one of another description, who passed Rokeby with great regret—I mean General John Malcolm, the Persian Envoy, the Delhi resident, the poet, the wanderer, the polite man, and the Borderer. He is really a fine fellow. I met him at Dalkeith, and we returned together. He has just left me, after drinking coffee. A fine time we had of it, talking of Troy town, and Babel, and Persepolis, and Delhi, and Langholm, and Burnfoot; with all manner of episodes about Iskander, Roostam, and Johnnie Armstrong. Do you know, that poem of Ferdusi's must be beautiful. He read me some very splendid extracts, which he had himself translated. Should you meet him in London, I have given him in charge to be acquainted with you, for I am sure you will like each other. To be sure, I know him little—but I like his frankness—his sound ideas of morality and policy."

Another illustrious personage soon crossed Malcolm's path. In youth he had won the friendship of Wellington, when the latter was gathering laurels in the East; and their intimacy had withstood the effects of years and separation. When, therefore, in the summer of 1814, Wellington appeared for a short time in England, neither his great fame, nor the enthusiasm with which he was received, made him forgetful of his old friend:—

"He had not been many hours in London before he made his way to Malcolm's house in Manchester Street, eager to shake him by the hand, and excited the incredulity of an old Scotch servant by announcing himself as the Duke of Wellington. After a fortnight's sojourn in England, he sailed as ambassador to France, leaving Malcolm more than ever bound to him by ties of the strongest personal respect and affection."

After the battle of Waterloo, Malcolm, not doubting the reception he should meet with from the conqueror, visited the field, and afterwards proceeded to Paris. The following extract from his journal will be interesting to our readers:—

"I went to the Duke's hotel. He had not returned from the review, so Allan and myself left our names, and the moment he came in (five o'clock), Colonel Campbell brought us a message requesting we would dine with him, and that we would bring Lord John Campbell, who was our fellow-traveller. We found the Duke with a large party seated at dinner. He called out, in his usual manner, the moment I entered, 'Ah! Malcolm, I am delighted to see you.' I went and shook hands, introduced Lord John Campbell, and then sat down. I mention this trifling because it showed me at once that his astonishing elevation had not produced the slightest change. The tone—the manner—everything was the same."

"After dinner, he left a party he was with when I entered, and, shaking me by the hand, retired to one end of the room, where he shortly stated what had occurred within the eventful month. 'People ask me for an account of the action,' he said; 'I tell them it was hard pounding on both sides, and we pounded the hardest. There was no manoeuvring,' he said. 'Bonaparte kept his attacks, and I was glad to let it be decided by the troops. There are no men in Europe that can fight like my Spanish infantry; none have been so tried. Besides,' he added with enthusiasm, 'my army and I know one another exactly. We have a mutual confidence, and are never disappointed.'—'You had, however,' I observed, 'more than one-half of your troops of other nations.'—'That did not signify,' he said, 'for I had discovered the secret of mixing them up together. Had I employed them in separate corps I should have lost the battle. The Hanoverians,' he added, 'are good troops, but the new Dutch levies are bad. They, however, served to fill gaps, and I knew where to place them.'"

Malcolm's career of activity had not yet closed. While enjoying the festivities of Paris, he was dreaming of India; and, after some years' service there, and a brief residence in England, he was appointed to the Government of Bombay. The object towards which his ambition pointed was the Governor-Generalship; but to this high office he was not destined to attain.

While looking with a keen eye after his own interest, Malcolm did not forget Persia and its politics. In 1826, when Russia and Persia were at war, he laboured, from his retreat at Hyde Hall, to impress on the ministers of the day the expediency of supporting the weaker Power; and the Duke of Wellington, to whom he more particularly addressed himself, wrote thus to Mr. Canning:—

"We have a real interest in the preservation of the independence and integrity of the Persian monarchy, and the existence of this interest is well known in Russia as well as throughout Europe. It will not answer, then, to allow the Persian monarchy to be destroyed, particularly upon a case of which the aggression and injustice are undoubtedly on the side of the Russians. The real well-understood interest of the Emperor of Russia in this case is likewise to keep the King of Persia in a state of independence and respectability, if not as a barrier between him and India, at least as one between the Russian dominions and the wild tribes of Mahometans in that part of Asia. I think, therefore, that you will not find the Emperor disinclined to listen to your counsels upon this subject."

With reference to this correspondence, Malcolm observed to the Duke:—

"I most cordially concur in your opinion as to the interest we have in keeping Persia in a state of independence and respectability; and the interest of Russia is the same, though I much doubt that Court continuing to view this subject in the light we do."

Years rolled on, and about the beginning of 1831, Malcolm returned for a last time to England, and was returned to Parliament as Member for Launceston, in Cornwall. Early in the year 1833, he was attacked by influenza; his end was approaching:—

"On the morning of the 28th [of April], he left Prince's Street, in good spirits at the thought of soon again seeing his wife and daughters. But he had scarcely reached Charing Cross, when that tremendous visitation which strikes down so many in the full exercise of their powers, and turns the vigour of manhood into the helplessness of the child, descended upon Sir John Malcolm. He had directed that his carriage should stop at the coach-office in order that some inquiries might be made about the places which he had taken in the stage. The servant opened the door, and was about to ask for his orders, when he saw that his master had sunk down from the seat, and was lying insensible at the bottom of the carriage. Dismayed by the fearful sight, he gave orders for an immediate return, at the utmost possible speed, to Prince's Street. Medical advice was summoned. It was at once pronounced that Sir John Malcolm had been stricken by paralysis."

On the 30th of May, Malcolm yielded to the great destroyer. His remains were consigned to the vaults of St. James's Church, Piccadilly; and a monument, executed by Chantrey, was erected to his memory in Westminster Abbey.

Mr. Kaye writes of his hero's career:—

"He had not achieved all he had desired; he had aimed at the Governor-

Generous, and had fallen short of the mark. It was a noble ambition; and nobly was it prosecuted.

"We get so near—so very, very near.
"Is an old tale—Jove strikes the Titans down,
Not when they set about their mountain-swing,
But when another rock would crown their work."
"Great as is this truth, the lesson to be derived from the contemplation of such a career as Sir John Malcolm's is not that which the poet would inculcate. We are to be instructed by the much accomplished, not by the little unattained. He had gone out to India as a cadet of infantry at the age of thirteen, with no prospect of promotion than lies before any other scarcely-educated boy who leaves his paternal homestead to make his way as best he can for himself amidst the elements of competitors on a vast theatre of action; and he left the country of his adoption, having attained, if not its highest place, the highest ever attained by one who set out from the same starting-point. Only one cadet of the Company's army had ever before earned for himself so prominent a position. But every youth who now swears at the India House to be faithful to the Company, will see, in this story of Malcolm's life, what he may live to accomplish."

We readily concur in the opinion that the career of Sir John Malcolm teaches an instructive lesson to youthful aspirants, and furnishes a worthy example for their imitation. We cannot, however, help expressing our regret to see a biographer assigning to such a man the honours which in justice should be reserved for those who have led the armies of a continent to victory, or ruled states by the might of eloquence, or carried measures beneficial to millions, or impressed immortal principles on public conviction. Mr. Kaye ought to know that this is simply to degrade the standard by which men of celebrity are judged. We are compelled, however reluctantly, to add that the volumes before us are somewhat too bulky, and their pages much too dull to admit of their finding favour with the general reader.

The Sportsman's Friend in a Frost. By HARRY HIEOVER. London: Newby.

THE gentleman who, under the signature of "Harry Hieover," contributes to the principal sporting Reviews of the day, has collected several of his best papers, and with the title of "A Sportsman's Friend in the Frost," issued them bound in one handsome volume. The title is no misnomer, for it will be difficult to find a miscellany more congenial to the sporting man, weather-bound in some hunting lodge, when the visits to the stable and the kennel, and the arrangements of gear and tackle, afforded no further occupation, and he was compelled out of sheer ennui to take to reading. There are articles to suit the hard-headed practical man who opens the book for the purpose of acquiring knowledge; and there is lighter matter for the more thoughtful. The papers on the "Field and the Turf," "Sporting and its Patrons," "Hunters and Hunting Men," "The Ring," "Pigeon Shooting," and the "Hints on Coaching," are all excellent. The author is up in every branch of his subject, and writes not only with ease and fluency, but with much descriptive power, and a strong perception of the ludicrous; the latter coming out and being used more especially when reference is made to the tyros and impostors whose grand aim in life appears to be considered well up in sporting subjects. When, however, Mr. Hieover quits his proper ground, and takes to moralising—when he shakes his head over the prevailing taste for autumnal excursions to the Rhine, laments over the folly of the Exhibition of 1851, and argues strongly in favour of the cultivation of prize-fighters—he is much less forcible, his notions are extravagant and one-sided, and his grammar becomes slightly hazy. Logic, however, is not of much "count" to sporting men; nor do we imagine that they will trouble themselves to read those chapters which do not profess to treat of some branch of their all-engrossing pursuit. A better companion, or a more pleasant talker, than Harry Hieover, they could not find; and when they next take to field, their practical experience will doubtless be amplified by many shrewd hints picked up during the perusal of their "Friend in the Frost."

MUSIC.

Jewell's Madrigal and Motett Book. London: J. H. Jewell.
THIS is the first number of a serial publication, intended for the lovers of the ancient vocal masters. The motett is the father of the madrigal, from whence sprang that truly national, but glorious, offshoot—the glee. The present number opens with the far-famed motett, "Quam Pulchrum?" by Palestrina. The Greek theories and combinations which were in the ascendant for ages, gave way, in the sixteenth century, to the genius of one of Italy's choicest sons. To the works of Palestrina may be referred the music formed to captivate both heart and ear. It is to be hoped that the reception of the first number of this capital work will justify the publisher in carrying out so spirited an intention.

Amour et Coquette. Deux Morceaux de Salon for the Piano-Harmonium, or Harmonium. By LOUIS ENGEL. London: Chappell and Co.

LOUIS ENGEL, in this composition, carries out the principles laid down in his instructions for the piano-harmonium. Persons who have paid close attention to his admirable rules, will find no great difficulty in gaining a speedy mastery over the eight pazes of music here produced. To players on this instrument (the harmonium), the observations of this master generally, and the selections of music best adapted to achieve a speedy, and withal a legitimate, conquest over seeming difficulties, are well worthy the attention of any player who is sufficiently ambitious to play well.

Hiawatha. By BENNETT GILBERT. London: J. H. Jewell.
THE composer defines this a "Romance Poétique" for the pianoforte, and undertakes to outline by the arbitrary signs of black and white headed notes, with their ordinary attendants, Hiawatha's journey homeward. How far the musician Gilbert has worked out the idea of the poet Longfellow, must resolve itself into a matter of opinion. There is a great deal of contrivance in the music; the performer must have both hands good, and to give any effect, he or she ought to possess a truly poetic temperament.

Fantasia on Bohemian Airs. By JULES SCHULHOFF. London: "Musical Bouquet" Office.

THESE national patriotic melodies are so artistically built upon, that they form a series of pianoforte studies. The opening movement—a good exercise on the black keys—bears the signature of G flat major. When to the eye of the tyro the passages look dark, crooked, and puzzling, a figure comes to the rescue, and points the direction the hand should take; and chromatic passages receive attention wherever strictly necessary. Moderate pianoforte players will not disdain these national airs in their dashing attire, while the less accomplished will regard their achievement as a positive triumph.

No, no, I cannot smile again! Written by R. JAMES; composed by A. S. HOLLOWAY. London: J. H. Jewell.

MR. HOLLOWAY has produced a song, which, though neither distinguished by elaborate invention nor sparkling with genius, is free from faults. Is there no Sunny Vale? Song by JUANITA. London: J. H. Jewell.

A PLAINTIVE, simple, and pleasing melody, in B flat major, easily to be acquired.

THE NEW POSTAL DISTRICTS.—Mr. Stanford, the well-known map-seller of Charing Cross, has issued several maps, having reference to the postal divisions of the metropolis and its suburbs. One which has been forwarded to us, has the divisions clearly defined, with strong outlines, and the various districts tinted in different colours so that they may be seen at a glance. Accompanying the map is the Post Office Street List, with tables of the districts attached.

INDEBTED MSS.—M. Miller, a gentleman in the suite of Count de Morny, has been authorised by the Russian government to copy a number of notes and letters of Voltaire, which are kept in the imperial library at St. Petersburg, and refer mostly to the French court, as well as to the great questions of war and diplomacy of his time. Another French gentleman is employed to make a copy of eighteen or twenty volumes of hitherto unpublished writings of Diderot, which are kept in the same library.

THE SPIRITUALISTS OF NEW YORK have resolved themselves into two factions—the "Christians" and the "non-Christians," the former acknowledging the Divinity of the Saviour. These have established a separate church. The congregations number several hundred each.

"MODERN ANTIQUITIES."

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ILLUSTRATED TIMES.")

SIR,—My attention has been called recently to a paragraph, which I had previously overlooked in your paper of Saturday, the 13th of December, which is entitled "Modern Antiquities," and ends with the words, "Mr. Edward Hawkins, in reference to the forgeries in flint, observed that they had successfully imposed on Mr. Thomas Wright, who had written a tract on the subject of their supposed antiquity." A copy of that tract he saw on the Society's table, and it was very plain to him that the objects engraved in it were identical with the forgeries now exhibited. Your readers will bear in mind that this is part of a report of what took place at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, on a communication by Mr. Franks, one of the assistant keepers of antiquities in the British Museum.

As the author of the "tract" in question, I beg you will allow me to reply to a public statement which has certainly taken me by surprise, but which cannot well be replied to in the same space in which it was made, though I will try to be as brief as possible. I am surprised, Sir, at the paragraph to which I allude, because I have always believed that there are certain rules of courtesy, or good behaviour, held sacred among gentlemen, and which surely ought not to be transgressed among those who claim the title of scholars; and it seems to me that I am so well personally known to Mr. Edward Hawkins, who is the keeper of antiquities in the British Museum, and, during the present year, a vice-president of the Society of Antiquaries, that, in accordance with such rules, he might, before publicly accusing me of publishing what was false, have asked me whether I had taken any steps to ascertain if it were genuine. Had he done this, I should at once, and without reserve, have given him the information which would have saved him from making a wrong guess. I will even now, through you, inform Mr. Hawkins that I have been for some three years past perfectly well aware of reports that some person in the Woods of Yorkshire was in the practice of forging implements of flint resembling those which have been so commonly found in those islands, and which are usually ascribed to the Ancient Britons. The thing seemed to me so odd, and so unlikely to be profitable, from the small prices these articles generally fetch, that I only half believed it; but I did not disbelieve it, although I could obtain no clear information on the subject. The flint articles which have thrown Mr. Hawkins aground were sent to me almost three years ago, by Mr. Edward Tindall, of Bridlington, and I have no hesitation in saying that they excited my interest to a considerable degree; but I was not so very incautious as Mr. Hawkins seems to suppose, for I took the opportunity early in the last year, of going to Bridlington myself to make a personal acquaintance with the gentleman who had collected them, and to inquire into the circumstances under which they were found, and, without troubling you with particulars, I will merely assure you that I perfectly convinced myself of the respectability and good faith of my informants, and of the truth of everything which had been told me. Not satisfied with this, when my friend Mr. Rosch Smith went some weeks afterwards on a visit to Scarborough, I requested him to stay at Bridlington on his way back, and make his observations also; and he did so, and returned as fully convinced of the good faith of my correspondents there as I was myself. I am perfectly aware of the old saying of the odiousness of comparisons, and I agree in it generally; but I do think that there are few persons in this country, or in any other, who would set up the opinion of Mr. Hawkins against that of Mr. Rosch Smith. Now, Sir, having taken every possible precaution in what I was doing, not because anybody had said that these false articles were suspicious, but because I am not quite so unwary as Mr. Hawkins seems to suppose. I wrote and printed the paper to which he alludes, without thinking it necessary to state whether I had any suspicions or how I had cleared them up; nor even at the present moment can I see that such statement would have served any other purpose than possibly hindering some hasty gentleman from running into what is vulgarly called a "mere's nest."

There is only one thing that gives me any further concern in the matter, which leads me to give an instance of the manner in which some societies are now and then managed. It must no doubt seem to your readers very strange that a statement of an accusation publicly put forward against me in a meeting of a celebrated society, of having been "imposed upon" by forgeries, should appear without any intimation that I had offered any contradiction to it. To explain this I will merely give you a brief statement of circumstances and dates. I must premise that the "tract," to which Mr. Hawkins alludes, is a paper which WILL appear next year in the Transactions of a provincial society, of which I had had a small number of copies printed separately for distribution among friends. I had not sent one to Mr. Hawkins, or to Mr. Franks, nor, as far as I know, to any person who was likely to have shown it to them. The first meeting of the Society of Antiquaries for the present season took place on the evening of Thursday, Nov. 20th. A few days before this, I sent a copy of this tract for presentation to the Society of Antiquaries. I was present at the first meeting, and was rather surprised not to hear this and some other tracts I had sent with it enumerated among the presents of the evening. By a mere accident I was hindered from attending the next meeting, Thursday, Nov. 27. In the afternoon of the next day I received a note from a member who was present informing me that Mr. Franks had made a communication to the Society on the subject of flint arrow-heads alleged to have been forged in the Woods of Yorkshire, and wishing that I had been there to make some remarks upon it; and at the same time the usual formal letter came from the Society, acknowledging the receipt of my books, which had been presented the same evening. As a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries I wrote the same day to the secretary, Mr. Akerman, requesting of him as a personal favour to tell me in a few words what it was that had taken place, and especially to inform me if any person or place had been alluded to directly or indirectly in connection with the alleged forgeries, never supposing that so pointed an allusion had been made to myself. I added, that if such allusion had been made, I should probably send him a paper upon the subject for the next evening. To this letter I never received any reply from the Secretary of the Society, but on the Monday following, a bare extract from the minutes of the meeting was forwarded to me without comment by the assistant-secretary, from which I learnt merely that Mr. Franks had exhibited some flint spear-heads, which he had obtained from a dealer in Leeds, who told him that they had been forged by some unknown or unnamed individual who resided in the Woods of Yorkshire, which, I need not tell you, is not the position of Bridlington. I thought merely that our secretary did not like the trouble of corresponding with the members, and that he had directed the assistant-secretary to give me all the information that existed; and, on one hand, supposing that no distinct personal or local allusions had been made, and not wishing to make a communication on the forgeries themselves until I had further investigated the subject, while on the other hand I was much occupied with other matters, I didn't feel it necessary to say anything more on the subject, nor have I heard the subject spoken of since, until, to my great astonishment, I read in your paper this morning, not only that Mr. Franks, the assistant keeper of antiquities in the British Museum, read on the 27th of November, a communication on these "Forged Antiquities," but that Mr. Hawkins, the chief keeper of antiquities in the British Museum, and a vice-president of the Society of Antiquaries, stated authoritatively on that occasion that the forgers "had successfully imposed on Mr. Thomas Wright," and that "it was plain to him" that the objects engraved in my tract, which "he saw on the table," were the forgeries in question. Now, Sir, as my tract was only presented in the course of the proceedings that evening, I can only suppose that Mr. Hawkins gave an off-hand opinion upon a matter of which, as far as regarded my tract, he was utterly ignorant, unless, as some persons might almost be led to suspect, the tract had been kept in the background a week, in order that the great discovery might make a still greater effect.

And now, Sir, to quit personalities, on which it gives me no pleasure to dwell, I will take the opportunity of saying that I was very glad to hear that Mr. Franks had brought forward this subject of the alleged forgeries in Yorkshire, and I hope he and others will continue it until the whole matter be cleared up, and the practice of forging, if it exist there, be put a stop to. I think that Mr. Hawkins would be doing much greater service by trying to narrow more and more the limits of inquiry till he come upon the guilty individual, than, by making haphazard guesses in the dark, make blunders which will only throw discredit upon what there may be of truth. He or others will do more service by fixing upon the man who has committed forgeries, than by making mistakes as to persons supposed to have been "imposed on" by them. And there would be service in this, for unfortunately articles of flint do not, like other antiquities, bear with them undoubted marks of their age, and if indefinite suspicions of this kind are allowed to go abroad, it will soon be impossible to know what are genuine and what not. I, indeed, shall not be at all surprised to hear some day, that all the articles of flint preserved in the British Museum are pronounced to be fabrications.

Apologising for so far trespassing on your valuable space, I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
SYDNEY STREET, BROMPTON, DEC. 1856.
THOMAS WRIGHT.

ARSENIC IN THE TEA-KETTLE.—The trials of Palmer and Dove have caused a great deal of investigation into the nature of arsenic, not only in England, but abroad. Professor Otto, of Brunswick, being aware of the fact that metal invariably exists in the ochreous deposits of water, thought of examining for arsenic in the crust which had formed on the inside of his tea-kettle, and had not the slightest difficulty, by the application of Marsh's test, in demonstrating its presence there. The water used in London deposits a large amount of crust on the inside of tea-kettles. That crust holds a variable portion of oxide of iron, and, probably, if subjected to chemical tests, will be found to contain arsenic.

RESIGNATION OF THE VICARAGE OF CRIPPLEGATE BY ARCHDEACON HALE.—Archdeacon Hale has actually resigned the living of the Vicarage of Cripplegate, which he has held for the last ten years. In the early part of last week the Venerable the Archdeacon forwarded his resignation to the Bishop of London, and on Tuesday evening received an official notification that it was accepted. The living is in the gift of the Chapter of St. Paul's, and is valued, it is said, at £1,800 a year.

SIR ROBERT PEEL ON RUSSIA.

THE new library in Adderley Park, Birmingham, was inaugurated on Tuesday evening by a meeting in the Museum Room, at which were present Lord Lyttelton, Lord Leigh, Sir Robert Peel, M.P., Mr. Adie, M.P., and numerous friends of the institution. The great attraction of the night was a promised lecture by Sir Robert Peel on the subject of "Moscow," which proved, upon delivery, to be highly amusing, if not instructive.

Sir Robert described how he went to Russia last year "on board of one of those magnificent ships which plough the ocean like queens," and gloriously assert the independence of our country. He proceeded up the Baltic, passed the shores of Finland, and ultimately reached St. Petersburg, which he described as very cold and subject to the east wind. The Right Hon. Baronet then proceeded to describe the public buildings of St. Petersburg, which he did not admire, and the Crown Jewels, which he did. The Right Hon. Baronet dwelt upon the great ruby in the Russian crown with much feeling, and exhibited a strong appreciation of a large pearl, which is the richest gem in the Empress's necklace. Passing, then, to the art treasures of the city, Sir Robert informed us that he saw some pictures which were taken out of the museum at Kerich, by order of the Emperor, two years ago. From this fact the Hon. Baronet drew an important political deduction. He said:—"That shows the premeditation of the man (the late Czar). Those pictures had been removed with great cost and difficulty from Kerich to St. Petersburg two years before; and this proceeding leaves little doubt on my mind that there was a great design against the liberties of Europe."

Sir Robert then passed to the Marble Palace, which, said he, "is the palace of that 'Frank and open-hearted sailor,' Constantine. How I laughed," pursued Sir Robert, "when I read that description of Constantine's character! It is all so absurd, you know." The Right Hon. Baronet concluded his description of St. Petersburg with a hit at the extortions of the hotel-keepers. He declared that "our dinner every night cost us sixty pounds."

From St. Petersburg, Sir Robert and his party went to Moscow, where he found 10,000 men drawn up to receive the crown jewels, which had travelled by the same train. Moscow he described in much the same terms as he had used with respect to the capital. Everywhere splendour, barbarism, and extortion. Attending the fair at Nishni, Sir Robert fell in with the Governor, whom he described as "a brick," who drank no end of champagne without any "ulterior effects." The coronation, the coronation fête, and the grand personages who filled the "holy city," all passed under review. The Empress entered the cathedral on the coronation day, "with her hair dishevelled, looking like Norma in the opera." Count Morny is "a quick and span man who speculates in everything—bought a lot of pictures to sell again and make a profit of." Others, the ambassadors of our allies, were described in the same free, easy, and facetious manner; and, upon the whole, Sir Robert was as successful as usual. His lecture was constantly interrupted with "laughter and cheers."

A COTTON-MILL, to be worked on co-operation principles, has been established at Riffordean. The mill, a spacious building, is the property of 170 shareholders (chiefly workmen), holding 300 shares, at £10 per share.

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, NEWPORT, AND THE NEW MONUMENT TO THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH.

Few who are acquainted with the Isle of Wight can fail to take an interest in the historic memorials which give celebrity to the place. Conspicuous among these is Carisbrooke Castle, one mile from Newport, in which, after her Royal Sire's execution, the Princess Elizabeth, a daughter of the ill-fated Charles I., was confined with her brother, the young Duke of Gloucester, familiarly known as "Henry of Orléans." Whatever opinions may be entertained about Charles himself—and far be it from us to attempt his vindication—all authorities concur in admiration of his daughter's virtues and talents. At eight years of age she read and wrote French, Italian, Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. The sonnet of "Temperance" evinced how her courtesy and gentleness had produced a favourable impression even on those opposed to the Royal family, Montiel, the French Ambassador to the Stuart Court, Clarendon, Hume, and Fuller, bear similar testimony. When Charles was dead, Elizabeth and the young Gloucester (aged respectively eight and fourteen years) were the only members of the Royal family left in England, and, as Clarendon says, "they were sent to Carisbrooke Castle; and the Captain was required strictly 'that no person should be permitted to kiss their hands, and that they should not be otherwise treated than as the children of a gentleman,' which he observed very strictly."

The effects of sorrow, preying upon the feeble constitution of the Princess, resulted in disease. Some remedies were sent from London, but little care was taken of her in her sickness; and in September, 1650, nineteen months after her father's death, she was found dead in her apartment—her hands clasped as in prayer, her cheek resting upon the Bible.

The remains of the Princess were interred in the chancel of St. Thomas's, Newport, on the 20th of the same month in which she died. But the memory of this event passed away; and "men went in and out, and worshipped and knelt solemnly at the altar, and remembered not that the remains of a Royal maiden were enshrined within the sacred fane: till it chanced that, in October, 1793, some workmen, who were digging a grave, accidentally discovered the initials 'E.S.' engraven on a stone in the floor." Beneath was a vault containing the Princess's remains. The coffin was of lead, ridged in the middle, and in good preservation. An inscribed plate thus proved its identity:—"Elizabeth, 2d Daughter of ye late King Charles, died 8 Sept. 8, MDCL." That the spot, and the memory it celebrated, might not be forgotten, a brass tablet was erected, with an inscription.

Such was the only recognition of the Princess's sepulture in 1853. At that time, St. Thomas's Church was so dilapidated, that the erection of a new building, became necessary. The Queen and Prince Albert largely contributed to the funds necessary, and the present elegant building was begun. Her Majesty also commanded Baron Marochetti to erect a suitable monument in the new building to the Princess's memory.

We gather, from a tastefully got-up little volume,* descriptive of the recently-erected church, the following particulars:—

St. Thomas's Church may fairly be pronounced the most elegant church in the island. The style of its architecture is Early Decorated, which prevailed during the first portion of the 14th century. The building consists of a nave with clerestory, side aisles divided from the nave by six arches on either side, north and south porches and chapels, chancel, sacristy, grand western entrance arch and tower, and two small end galleries. The western entrance is very imposing, combining height, chastity and elegance of design, intricate and exquisite elaboration of detail.

The belfry contains a good peal of eight bells; and two elongated double windows on each side; and round the open summit is a pierced battlemented parapet, from which a lovely view is obtained of the town, Carisbrooke, the winding course of the Medina to Cowes, Osborne, and the distant hills of Hampshire. At the north-east angle is the turret, 25 feet above the summit level, carved and decorated with crockets, animals, finials, &c. The total elevation, to the summit of the turret, is 132 feet.

Each side has five large windows with varied tracery, a smaller one to each chapel, and a nearly central entrance porch with pointed summit. The tracery of the windows is marked by simplicity of design with richness of effect. The carvings have all been carefully studied and well executed, and the various foliated corbels, capitals, &c., contain some very fine samples of the period represented. A richly-carved screen separated the body of the old church from the chancel. Faithful reflex it was of the Stuart period, when Grinlin Gibbons lovingly carved fruit and flowers, and lumber artists followed in his train—when, too, Roundhead and Cavalier successively mutilated and restored sacred edifices. The screen was of oak, and extended across the building. On both sides, texts were carved, in raised and gilt letters. The pulpit was contemporary with the screen, and as elaborately ornamented. The top or sounding board is divided into seven panels; with an ornate carved cornice, bearing, in gilt fretwork letters, the text—"Cry aloud, and spare not; lift up thy voice like a trumpet." In front, between two seraphs blowing on trumpets, are reclining figures, representing Justice with a naked sword, and Mercy with an olive branch. Beneath the roof were stars and cherub heads; and two golden doves, emblems of the Holy Ghost, were pendant therefrom. In 1643, however, the churchwardens "received a warrant to remove and destroy in their church all things of a superstitious nature. Accordingly, they removed the altar to the east end, destroyed the cross over the holy rood, and carried away the two doves. On the restoration, one of the doves was replaced: the other was never brought to light. As regarded the town at large, the churchwardens

* "The Church of St. Thomas, Newport, Isle of Wight, and Elizabeth Stuart the Prisoner of Carisbrooke." By J. B. Deal. London: Dalton, Cockspur Street.

reported that "they could find none in the town popishly inclined."

The back panel of the pulpit has two pilasters, with embossed and carved back-ground; a Stuart coat-of-arms; the date of erection, 1636; and the crest of the donor, named March—a hand grasping a battle-axe, on a shield. Brackets support the book-board. Beneath are cherub heads; and a pelican, feeding her young from her breast.

The body consists of two rows of panels, seven in each, and one above the other. The top series represent, by appropriate figures, the four Cardinal Virtues and three Graces: the lower, "Grammatica, Dialectica, Rhetorica, Musica, Arithmetica, Geometria, Astrologia."

This curious relic has been re-erected in the new church. The screen has been adapted into a reading-desk, corresponding in character with the pulpit. It has spiral columns, with crimson silk behind, forming five arches in front and three at the sides, with carved spandrels and cherub-heads in panel.

But that which will engross the visitor's chief attention in the church, is her Majesty's "token of respect for the virtues and sympathy for the misfortunes" of the Princess Elizabeth. It is placed in the north chapel, is sculptured in Carrara marble, and represents a lady lying supine, on a tomb. The dress is in strict accordance with the Stuart period—low at the bosom, with a lace fringe and breast-knot; short sleeves, also edged with lace; and a deep stomacher, terminating in looped ribbon at the full skirt, from the end of whose graceful folds the feet are just discernible. One delicate arm and hand rest on the waist; the other is extended by the side, with the hand partly open. Even the nails are exquisitely developed, and the symmetry is perfect. The neck is bare, beautifully curved; and the cheek reclines upon an open Bible, over which long ringlets stray in profusion.

The face is almost Grecian in its pure and classic features, leaving us at a loss which most to admire—the sweet beauty and regularity of every line—the delicate nostrils, thin, parted lips, and slender chin—or the calm serenity of that still brow, and repose of the closed eyelids. The full drapery speaks of blooming life, but the attitude and features proclaim death's seal and superscription.

The tomb of the monument is plain, with Gothic mouldings on either side, continued square round the top. On its panel is the following noble inscription:—"To the memory of the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of Charles I., who died at Carisbrooke Castle on Sunday, Sept. 3rd, 1650, and is interred beneath the chancel of this church, this monument is erected, a token of respect for her virtues and of sympathy for her misfortunes, by Victoria R. 1836."

The chancel is very suggestive. Two immense carved corbels on the side facings of the stone arch are formed, on the one side of oak, indicative of strength; on the other, of the vine, typical of one of the sacred elements. The capital above the latter is composed of hops and hop leaves, illustrative of the passage—"The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof;" the other capital is formed of delicately-cut roses and rose leaves, emblematic of purity and innocence. Within the chancel is a richly-croqueted sedilia; ivy (immortality) forming the chief feature of ornamentation round spandrels of the arches.



ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.



THE MONUMENT ERECTED BY HER MAJESTY IN MEMORY OF THE DAUGHTER OF CHARLES I.

Above is the beautifully ribbed and panelled ceiling, with 80 bosses, 18 inches each across; the principals rest on six corbels, representing angels, carved from the solid block, and weighing half a ton each. The two centre are intended to illustrate "Martyrdom," and "Its Reward;" the former holding to her bosom a Calvary cross, and the other offering a celestial crown as its guerdon; four angels at the corners bear ribbons inscribed with a passage from the Litany, in illuminated characters—"The noble army of Martyrs praise Thee."

The church of St. Thomas is lighted by very elegant gas standards, 9 feet each high, branched, the jets springing from acorn ends. The system of heating combines with it ventilation. Accommodation is provided in sittings for 1,460 worshippers. The total cost of erection and fittings is £10,719, which has all been defrayed except £500.

CORNER FOR THE CURIOUS.—NO. XX.
A SAXON LANTERN AND SOME ANCIENT NUT-CRACKERS.

THE SAXON LANTERN.

The interesting relic which forms the subject of the accompanying engraving, is an example of the pains taken by our Anglo-Saxon ancestors in the decoration of objects required for domestic purposes, and shows us, that upwards of one thousand years ago, our art manufactures were by no means contemptible.

The ornamental character of the lantern, which is preserved in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, enables us to form some idea of the extent of the decoration used in the Anglo-Saxon dwellings, and the beautiful illuminations of the period give us a further notion of the state of the decorative arts in those days. The houses of the better classes, chiefly built with wood, were small and imperfectly constructed; but the chairs, tables, bedsteads, &c., were richly carved with grotesque and other figures, and enriched with a Byzantine style of ornament. The nobles had in general use vessels of glass, and various kinds of earthenware, many of them of fine form, while their rooms were hung with coloured cloth and tapestry, on which were figured representations of battles, hunting scenes, and incidents in the lives of remarkable men. Ladies then beguiled the leisure of many a year in producing these needle-wrought pictures.

With such aid an Anglo-Saxon home must have formed a scene of much elegance and refinement; but we are afraid they were much troubled with draughts, which no hangings were sufficient to prevent, and therefore lanterns must have been indispensable. Alfred the Great is said to have invented a method of measuring time by means of candles, made to burn a certain number of hours. These, at least to insure exactness, must have been carefully sheltered from the wind; and the lantern now engraved may probably have been used for this very pur-

pose of counting the hours of night. Formerly the trade of the lantern-maker was more extensive than now, simply because the streets were not systematically lighted. Many of our readers will remember that thirty or thirty-five years ago, before gas had got into general use in the country towns, that few houses were to be found without a lantern; now, they are in the large towns almost as rare as spinning-wheels. The horn-lantern may, however, still be seen in out-of-the-way places, solemnly borne before some aged ladies by the maids, as a means of protection from the quagmires and other dangers.

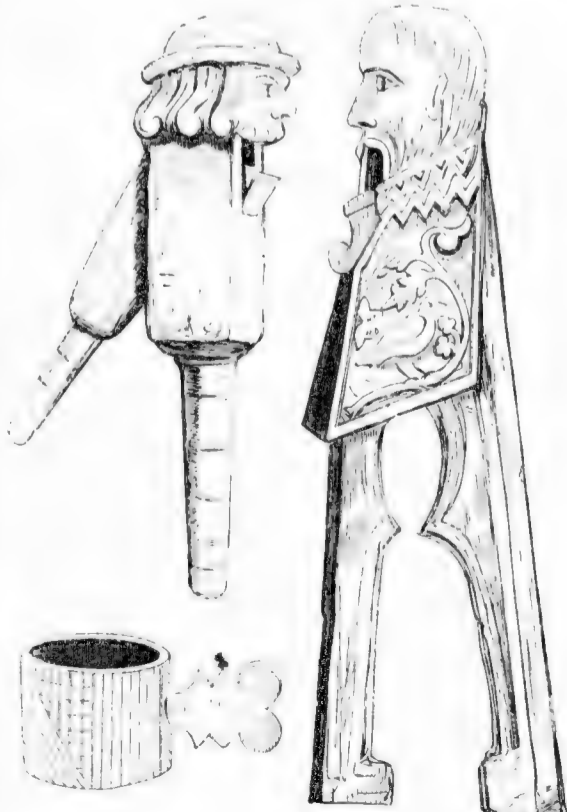
SOME ANCIENT NUT-CRACKERS.

The two quaint instruments at the top of the engraving, of about the time of Charles I. or II., are made of hard wood rather rudely carved; the other is of steel, and all are very effective, and look as if they had in their time seen good service. The grotesque heads with the mouth affording the means of cracking the nuts, are examples of the fitness of design for a particular purpose which characterise many of the objects in domestic use in the middle ages, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, up to the reign of Queen Anne, after which ornamental art for household uses seems for long almost to have been disused, and in the time of George III., our chairs, tables, side-boards, &c., were made heavy, very ugly, and without any attempt at appropriate pattern. It is true that the art of the turner was still kept employed in the manufacture of spinning-wheels, many of which were of very delicate and elaborate workmanship; and the hand iron work on sign-posts, garden-gates, &c., still bore evidence of the old taste and feeling for art. The iron-gateway of the Temple Gardens, and that in Gray's Inn, show that the workmen who executed them had some love of nature, and knowledge

of design, and much skill in fashioning his tough material into light and elegant forms. The use of carving had almost, however, ceased. Our sailing vessels, like the tables, were made plain; yet the ornaments on ships, the street signs of Old London, and such works as Gog and Magog in the Guildhall, were formerly sufficient to keep some hundreds of carvers constantly at work on the banks of the Thames. In other parts, many more artistic workmen were engaged in making elaborately-decorated cabinets, &c.; and in several of the ancient cathedral towns of England, exquisite pieces of domestic furniture were produced; and it is worthy of notice, that the peculiar style of each building has a marked effect upon both the architectural style of the houses and the fashion of the furniture. This connection between architecture and the other departments of art, may be readily traced by a comparison between the churches and abbays of Queen Eleanor's days with the metal carved work, &c., then in general use throughout the country; the somewhat debased yet picturesque style of Queen Elizabeth's time with the household fittings and costumes of the people; the elegant proportions and details of Inigo Jones's buildings with the furniture, &c., of that time; and the churches and houses of the reign of George III. with the chairs, &c., the patterns and form of the ladies' dresses, the cut of the dress of the gentlemen, and the statuary taste—as, for example, "the pig-tailed abomination," as "Punch" has called it, which is still to be seen in Cockspur Street.



SAXON LANTERN IN THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM, OXFORD.



ANCIENT NUT-CRACKERS.



SKATING IN THE PARKS: "ANOTHER MAN IN!"

SKATING IN THE PARKS.

We can certainly comprehend how men can pass through life without being enthusiastic lovers of skating, just as they may live for fifty years without being admirers of English history or the British Constitution. But for our own part, we are sorry to feel any lack of enthusiasm in that fine old national exercise which most Englishmen are so glad to enjoy.

Unlike many other English sports, in which we are all proud of participating, skating can be indulged in as well in town as country; and most people of experience will frankly confess to having never seen it pursued with more eagerness than in the public parks of which our metropolis can boast.

Indeed, any Londoner of spirit, even though he had never put skates on his feet, would repel with indignation the idea of being incapable of performing a flourish on the ice. Has not Mr. Dickens furnished the world with a great example in this respect? "You skate, of course, Winkle," said Mr. Wardle. "Ye—yes. Oh, yes," replied Mr. Winkle. "I am rather out of practice." There are few Winkles who would not sooner confess to having committed some serious outrage than to being unable to skate; a fact of which the above engraving—made from a sketch taken in one of the metropolitan parks last week—is an apt illustration.

FASHIONS FOR JANUARY.

At the present season, novelties in ball and evening costume are those which chiefly claim attention. For ball dresses, the most favourite materials are tulle illusion, lace, or tulle, over slips of glacé silk. The flounces are elaborately ornamented with ribbon, fringe, feather trimming, &c. In addition to the ball dress shown in our illustration, we may mention one of a very simple and elegant description, just completed for a young lady of rank. It is composed of pink tulle illusion, and has seven flounces, each edged by a narrow ruche of the same material, and below the ruche, by a row of narrow blond lace. Another beautiful ball dress, peculiarly appropriate to the season, is of white tulle illusion, with two skirts, each ornamented with a broad trimming of quilled satin ribbon, set on in zig-zag. Within each angle formed by this trimming there is fixed a bouquet, composed of the foliage and red berries of the holly. The corsage and sleeves are ornamented with corresponding bouquets.

Of the most admired dresses suited for dinner and evening parties, we must confine ourselves to the notice of two. One is of cerulean blue silk, with three flounces, headed by bows of blue velvet, fixed at equal distances, and having long ends flowing over the flounces. In the centre of each bow there is an ornament formed of silver and turquoise. The other dress

is of white terry velvet, tastefully ornamented with bands of cerise colour velvet. The corsage is richly trimmed with the same velvet, intermingled with Venetian point.

One of the principal *modistes* of Paris has just completed a beautiful dress for the lady of a foreign Ambassador. It is of pink silk, and has a double skirt. The first or lower skirt is ornamented all round with perpendicular rows of trimming formed of vandykes of pink moire antique. These rows of trimming are of a pyramidal form—that is to say, broader at the lower part than at the top, and they are edged with ruches of pink ribbon. The upper skirt is trimmed in the same manner, but the rows of trimming are so disposed that the lines run alternately with those on the lower skirt. The effect is at once novel and elegant. The corsage has a berthe, trimmed in the same style. The sleeves are very long—that is to say, they are what are called short sleeves; but they are sleeves somewhat lengthened. They are slit open from the shoulder to the lower edge, and the opening is filled by puffings of white tulle, confined by bows of pink ribbon.

In regard to bonnets, we have no important change to record, either with respect to form or materials. They still continue to be of very small size, and very variously trimmed. The trimming is indeed so profuse, that the



JANUARY FASHIONS.—WALKING AND EVENING DRESSES.

material composing the bonnet itself is entirely lost sight of. Feathers, flowers, ribbon, lace, or blonde are frequently all conjointly employed in trimming one and the same bonnet. The result is a very elegant and becoming *coiffure*; but how far it answers the purpose of an adequate protection to the head at the present inclement season, is another question. But fashion rules with despotic sway, and the same style of bonnet which had the recommendation of being cool and light in the dog-days, has been resolutely worn through the fog and frost of December.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Evening Dresses.—The figure with the opera cloak wears a dress of pink silk, with a double skirt. Each skirt is trimmed with three rows of white feather fringe—one broad row being placed quite at the edge, and two narrower rows above it. The opera cloak is of white cashmere, trimmed with pink plush figured with white spots. The hood is ornamented with rich tassels of pink and white chenille and passementerie. The other figure represents a ball dress of white tulle illusion, figured with small sprigs worked in blue silk. The dress has three flounces, trimmed with festoons of blue terry velvet. The corsage has a berthe formed of rows of blonde and trimming of blue terry velvet. The sleeves are trimmed in corresponding style. Head-dress a double bandeau of gold and turquoise, with a plume of white and blue marabouts on one side. Bracelets of gold and turquoise, and a Chinese fan.

In-door Costume.—The lady whose face is seen in profile, wears a dress of very rich brown silk, crossed with chequers of black satin. The skirt has side trimmings formed of black velvet intermingled with pendent ornaments of black chenille. The corsage is trimmed with black velvet and fringe. The collar and under sleeves are of Maltese lace. The cap, also of Maltese lace, has lappets hanging at the back, and is trimmed with bows of peach-blossom ribbon and black velvet. Bracelets of malachite and coral. Gloves of pale yellow kid. The dress shown in the other figure is of violet colour terry velvet. The skirt is trimmed with nine bands of black velvet, each graduating in breadth as they ascend to the waist, and each headed by a row of black guipure. The corsage and sleeves are nearly covered with narrow rows of black velvet, intermingled with black guipure, and one row of broad guipure is set on in the form of a berthe. Collar and under sleeves of Venetian lace. Lappets of the same, fixed very low at the back of the head, and flowing loosely over the shoulders. Bracelets and brooch of oxidised silver, set with amethysts.

MR. DICKENS'S PRIVATE THEATRICALS.

On the evening of Tuesday, Mr. Dickens commenced, at his residence, Tavistock House, another series of those dramatic performances which were formerly so successful. Mr. Dickens was himself the principal performer; and the play, entitled "Frozen Deep," was by Mr. Wilkie Collins, whose "Light-house," on previous occasions, created so much admiration in literary and fashionable circles. "Frozen Deep" is a romantic drama, in three acts, in the first of which we are introduced to four ladies, living together in Devonshire. They are the nearest relatives of naval officers absent on an Arctic expedition, and not heard of for three years. Rose Elsworth is the daughter of the captain of one of the exploring ships; Mrs. Stevenson is the wife of one of the lieutenants; Lucy Crayford is the sister of the other lieutenant; and Clara Burnham is the betrothed of Frank Aldersley, a young officer. It is with this last pair that the story is principally concerned. A youthful playmate, Richard Wardour, who had always hoped to marry her, had returned from abroad to find her "engaged" to another, and had vowed vengeance in consequence. Clara Burnham has a kindly friend in Lucy Crayford, and a somewhat dangerous companion in Nurse Esther, an old Scotchwoman, who asserts that she has the gift of second sight, and encourages the morbid humour of her young mistress by pretending to see what is going on at the North Pole. So the first act ends; and in the second, we are transported to a log hut in the Arctic regions, which, opening upon a snow landscape, reveals one of the most perfect pictures conceivable. The resources of the adventurers are nearly exhausted; and, as a last effort, they agree that a party shall try to make their way to some fur settlement, whence relief may be brought. Lots are cast, to determine who shall go. Wardour and Aldersley are inmates of the same hut, but ignorant of the fearful connection between them. Wardour is sunk in apathy and gloom, but strong and vigorous, sustained by one fixed idea—the hope of one day accomplishing his revenge. The lots decide that Aldersley shall go, and he remains behind. While the exploring party are preparing to set out, he discovers accidentally that Aldersley is his long-lost rival. Suppressing his fury, he insists on joining the party, and the rivals depart together. The scene of the third act is on the banks of Newfoundland. The ladies have left their Devonshire home, and made their way thither. The wanderers have returned—all but Wardour and Aldersley—and are now about to sail for England. The exploring party, finding it vain to proceed, had rejoined their companions; they two had resolved to push on together, and had never been heard of. All are happy but Clara, who is in despair. While they are preparing to embark a man suddenly appears among them, haggard, wild, in rags, and nearly bereft of reason. It is Wardour. Crayford, who had suspected his sinister design when he left the hut, rushes upon him, demanding where was his companion. But it is now discovered that poor Wardour's conduct has been of a nature wholly unexpected. When the two parted from their companions, he retained his fell purpose. But Frank was weak, ill, and wholly in his power. He was tempted to leave his companion to perish in the snow; but by degrees his generous nature prevailed, the demon forsook his heart, he supported his intended victim with the tenderest care, and through the direst hardships. The conclusion is, that he places his friend in the arms of his betrothed, while his own noble heart bursts in the effort. This affecting story is very finely told by the dramatist, and was beautifully represented. Mr. Dickens, as may be supposed, was the heartbroken Richard Wardour; and his performance was a display of tragic power which has seldom been surpassed. Next to Mr. Dickens, his eldest daughter, who personated Clara, moved most strongly the feelings of the audience. Her manner was remarkably unconventional, full of simple grace, and her very tone, look, and gesture seemed to be the pure impulse of nature. Nothing could be better than the getting up of the piece. The scenery, painted *con amore* by Mr. Telbin and Mr. Stanfield, is exquisitely beautiful, and every stage arrangement was perfect. The farce was "Animal Magnetism," capitalised by Mr. Dickens, Mr. Lemon, Mr. Egg, Mr. Dickens, jun., and two young ladies who had appeared in the play; and the whole entertainment seemed to give great delight to a distinguished audience.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—A farce entitled "A Night at Notting-hill," was produced at this theatre on Wednesday evening; the prevalent dread of burglars being the theme of the little drama. Mr. Alderman Syllabub (Mr. Wright), who resides at the site of terror, has made the most extensive preparations against the incursions of marauders, converting his mansion into a perfect arsenal of man-traps, spring-guns, detonating machines, &c., and providing it with the extra protection of Private Tightleathers (Mr. Paul Bedford), a dragoon, who has been sent by his commanding officer, the Alderman's nephew. There is, however, one invader whom the civic dignity has not been able to repel, and that is O'Mutton, an Irish policeman, who has won the heart of the housemaid, Lizzy (Miss Mary Keeley), and who, while the Alderman and the military hero are slumbering in the sitting-room, lurks in a cheffonier, in which the fair damsel has concealed him. When O'Mutton attempts to quit the premises, dire is the confusion that ensues; for the window through which he would escape is armed with a detonating apparatus, which explodes, and throws the whole family into a panic, and the Alderman in his perplexity is caught in one of the man-traps destined for the burglars. Having thus completed his experiences of Notting-hill, he resolves to seek a less formidable locality, and takes his leave of the audience, who have been kept in a roar of laughter by his misfortunes. The authors of this little piece, which, though slight, is full of broad "fun," and has, moreover, the merit of originality, are Messrs. Edmund Yates and H. Harrington. The former of these gentlemen is well-known as a humorous essayist, but we believe the "Night at Notting-hill" is his first attempt in the dramatic way. It is naturally made in the theatre which in the old days was managed by his father with such distinguished success.—*Times*.

EXECUTION OF DEDEA REDANIES.

DEDEA REDANIES, who had been convicted of the murder of the two sisters, Maria and Caroline Back, at Dover, was executed in front of the County Jail, at Maidstone, on Thursday week. The career of Dedea Redanies had been a somewhat extraordinary one. He was born in Belgrade, in Servia, and in 1848, at the age of 18, he professed the Mahometan religion. He served for some time in the Turkish army. At length disgusted with that service he left it, and was for some time in Milan. He there became acquainted with a Roman Catholic priest, who succeeded in converting him to new views, and Redanies became a Christian. On the breaking out of the war with Russia, he joined a Swiss regiment embodied for the British service, and was with his regiment at Shorncliffe, near Dover, when he committed the act for which his life was forfeited. He never for a moment denied his guilt, but he seemed bewildered by the number of counts in the indictment, which led to his hesitation in pleading guilty to all the charges. After conviction he evinced the most perfect composure. The Rev. Mr. Lawrence, a Roman Catholic priest (who was acquainted with the German language), was sent to visit the prisoner, and he attended him up to the last moment of his life.

The Rev. Mr. Lawrence was of opinion that the mind of Redanies was not in a sane state, and that opinion was communicated by the governor of the jail, to Sir George Grey, who however did not consider that there were sufficient grounds for interference by the Executive.

On the morning of the execution the Rev. Mr. Lawrence was with the prisoner at an early hour. To the last Redanies did not appear to think that he had committed any crime. Having been accustomed for some considerable time to a military life, he had naturally imbibed a good deal of the neatness and smartness of a soldier, and during his examination it was observed that he was always particularly careful in his personal appearance. On the morning of his execution he was more than usually careful in dressing himself. When he saw the executioner, he at once placed himself in a military upright position, and submitted to the new process of pinning without a murmur. He then proceeded to ascend the numerous steps leading to the scaffold, which was erected in front of the jail, and to which access was obtained through a window in the stonework. His composure did not forsake him for a moment. The Rev. Mr. King read the burial service in English, and the Rev. Mr. Lawrence read prayers in the German language. After a brief interval, the drop fell, and Redanies died almost instantaneously. A considerable number of persons assembled to witness the execution, and their behaviour was orderly and decorous.

A sad event concluded the melancholy proceedings of the day. The body, after hanging an hour, was cut down, and the workmen then proceeded to remove the scaffold. While so engaged, one of them fell from a considerable height upon his head, and was killed upon the spot.

THE PROPERTY OF CRIMINALS.—The inquiry respecting the property of James Montgomery Knighting, recently employed as transfer clerk by the Great Southern and Western Railway Company, and convicted and sentenced to six years' penal servitude for extensive frauds and forgery, was brought to a close on Saturday week. The jury find that the property in Bishop Street, Ashle Street, Parkgate Street, North Lotts, and in the counties of Meath and Longford, belonged to J. M. Knighting at the time he committed the offence of which he was convicted; and to the personal property, that all the bonds, judgments, bills, promissory notes, and I O U's, representing about £12,000, belonged to the convict at the time of his conviction. These documents will not, it is stated, realise anything like the amount appearing on the face of them. The crown, it is understood, will surrender to the railway company its right to Knighting's personal property; but if the convict survives his few years of penal servitude, he will come out to enjoy his fee simple and freehold estates, producing some £300 a year or upwards, in the possession of which the company, who had been plundered by him of that and much more besides, will be unable to disturb him.

DEATH BY STRYCHNINE.—Catherine Powell had been in the habit of talking about the effects of strychnine. She had lately been living in service at Hampton, and one day last week she was found by her mistress lying on the floor of the kitchen as though she was in a fit. A surgeon was immediately sent for, who found that the deceased was quite dead. There was nothing in the appearance of the body at the time to account for death—no rigor mortis, such as is believed to follow death by strychnine, with the exception of a strong muscular action in the fingers. On the deceased's box being removed, a bottle of white powder marked "Poison," was discovered. A post-mortem examination disclosed the presence of chalk and strychnine in the stomach. The Coroner, in summing up, observed that the case was an exceedingly important and extraordinary one. It was generally believed that poisoning by strychnine resulted in violent contortions of the hands, rigidity, and convulsions, but here was a case that exploded the whole theory.

LAW AND CRIME.

The state of our criminal population is exciting serious attention in influential quarters. In the North, Earl Grey and the Rev. Dr. Guthrie have spoken out upon the subject in a rational and Christian way. In London, the Lord Mayor has declared from his seat that our criminal population costs more than our poor; a fact which we humbly suggest to be true, even in its most limited extent, namely, that of the support and guarding of such criminals as happen to be caught. What crime costs the country by the depredations daily committed, by cruel, disabling assaults upon honest, useful men, by the expense of legal tribunals, and by loss of life by murders, must be incalculable. The City Solicitor proposes to put into form his views upon the subject, and to call a public meeting to consider the matter. Sir Peter Laurie has been collecting statistics as to the number of re-convicted ticket-of-leave men, and finds that, during the year just ended, forty-three of these interesting creatures were sentenced at the Central Criminal Court alone. This number he calls "an undeniable fact, which must speak for itself." But until February, when Parliament will meet, the public will be utterly without relief, against not only the ticket-men, but the general body of criminals. After that time, it will be easy enough to recall the tickets-of-leave from all those who cannot prove that they have since their release been gaining a livelihood by honest means. For the criminal classes in general, even education, as proposed by some benevolent persons, will probably not be found so perfect a corrective as may be supposed. Reading, writing, arithmetic, and the appreciation of comforts, even when combined with the Church Catechism, will not make a lad honest unless he also learn how to earn his living, and be put into the way of seeking it. Moreover, it is absolutely necessary that power should be given to remove the children of dissolute vagabond parents into the public care, instead of allowing them, as they do now notoriously, to pester our pedestrians by begging, while infants, for their fathers and mothers, and to grow up only to prey in maturer years, and upon their own account, on the public in general, by means of theft, violence, and murder.

A young man in Edinburgh was attacked by a party of Irish labourers, who, after demanding his money, knocked him down, grasped his throat, and only left him when he struck out on all sides with his clasp-knife. He went to the police-station, where he gave this account of the occurrence; but on the police repairing to the spot, one of his opponents was found stabbed to the heart. The companions of the deceased went also voluntarily to the station to lay a charge of stabbing. The position of this young man, supposing his tale to be true, is a very dangerous one, as that of anyone under such circumstances must necessarily be. His own evidence cannot be taken, and can only be supported by circumstances, such as his having gone instantly to the authorities, the improbability of his attacking alone, four strong men in the night-time, and the flight of his adversaries, instead of their raising a cry after him or arresting him on the spot. We allude to this case, because a similar one was recently foreseen by Mr. Alderman Wire, and some one who made inquiry as to the legality of carrying weapons of defence against robbers, was answered by the Alderman in accordance therewith.

Of all possible objects to be attained by legislation in any well-governed state, perhaps one of the most unaccountable would be the persecution of bakers. The total suppression of that particular trade would not materially conduce to the well-being of any civilised community. Nevertheless, a crusade against persons engaged in the manufacture and sale of bread, appears to have been commenced in the Marlborough Street district, and to be founded upon the smoke-consuming Act lately passed. On Monday last, a large number of these not usually gregarious people assembled to witness a judicial procedure—one of a series directed against individual members of their body. The defendant had committed the offence of baking bread in an oven; and having been warned as to the results of his act, had adopted a certain smoke-preventive apparatus, which had been recommended to him as the best for the required purpose of preventing nuisance to his neighbours. However, an engineer was found who deposed to the merits of a certain other invention. If a dozen engineers had been called promiscuously, it might have been difficult to find any one who had not some one particular invention under his patronage, and in his honest opinion superior to all the others. Two bakers, who had used the one described in the engineer's

evidence, testified as to its merits, with respect to their own peculiar ovens. Numerous other persons (all connected with the baking heresy) testified against the contrivance thus lauded. The prosecuted party appeared to have acted in good faith. He had adopted an invention which he believed to be the best; he had refused to adopt another which had been disparaged by his fellow-tradesman, who had tried it, as not answering the purpose intended. He was fined £5 penalty, and £5 costs. If this kind of proceeding is to be continued, the bakers will have no resource but to hold meetings, and establish an association for their legal protection.

A newspaper paragraph congratulates the rural magistrates of Ross on "the temperate tone in which they have commenced the new year." It seems that two lads were charged, before these renowned jurists, with trespassing in search of game. The boys had been seen, with sticks in their hands, in a field frequented by rabbits, and that was all. The magistrates discharged the boys, and the chairman remarked that the case was one of a very weak character, as everyone must admit that it was. Now, we cannot congratulate any set of magistrates, discharging a prisoner on account of insufficient evidence, for any remarkable "temperance," without implying a sarcasm. But in the same paragraph we find that before dismissing this miserable case the bench is said to have pressed the defendants to plead guilty, and held out the hope of lenient punishment in the case of compliance. If this be true, if any judicial authority in England strove to induce a prisoner, without a substantiated charge in evidence against him, to plead guilty in order to mitigate a supposed impending sentence, that judicial authority deserves at once dismissal and degradation, instead of congratulations. No metropolitan magistrate, no salaried Judge—from a Lord Chief Justice to an undersheriff—would have meditated, much less dared to commit, such an offence; and if these rustic squires erred in their ignorance of law and right, that ignorance is in itself a sufficient disqualification from the further fulfilment of judicial functions.

At the Insolvent Debtors' Court, a creditor appeared last week to oppose a prisoner who owed him £6. Mr. Commissioner Phillips pointed out to the creditor that the debt being under £20, would not enable him to keep his debtor in prison, even although a judgment of three years' imprisonment were delivered. It might have been added that, if a fraudulent debtor had run up debts to any amount, each respectively under £20, he might cause himself to be arrested for one above that sum, receive the heaviest judgment the court could inflict, and trip from the insolvent's box to become free as air by a collusive discharge. Such is the state of the law! The Commissioner's judgment, which ought in fact to be a sentence of imprisonment for the time therein specified, is at present only an unconditional discharge at the end of that period, without prejudice to the release of the prisoner in the meantime by the plaintiff at whose suit, real or fictitious, defendant has been arrested.

The Samaritan Institution has been again before the public, and the secretary has been charged before Alderman Carden with receiving goods (beer, biscuits, &c.) under false pretence of a charitable purpose, the same having been intended and afterwards converted to his own use. The evidence appears strong enough against him, and his counsel will not materially benefit his client's cause with public opinion by his technical objection that the pretence related to a future purpose, not to an existing fact. Unfortunately, this defence, if true, would release the defendant even although morally guilty. The law would always suppose that he had intended or was still about to distribute the beer and biscuits to the poor, although he had converted both to his own use immediately on receipt of them. But in this case there does appear by the evidence to have been a false representation of an alleged fact, namely, that of a previous distribution. The amount of perjury and conspiracy of which counsel promises the exposure, on one side or the other, is something frightful to contemplate. On the one hand, two girls swear to having been incited to perjury on the part of defendant; on the other, it is set up that these girls have actually forsworn themselves at the instance of a promoter of the prosecution. At the same time, the case brings to light a most honourable verification of the charity of our middle classes, and of their readiness and generosity in exercising it when the slightest guarantee appears to be afforded of its prudent and proper distribution.

THE SAWARD CONFEDERACY.

JAMES TOWNSEND SAWARD and James Anderson were again brought before the Lord Mayor on Saturday, charged with having committed a series of forgeries upon various bankers in the City.

Saward, it is scarcely necessary to remind our readers, is the person who was alleged by Agar, the convict approver in the case of the great balloon robbery on the South-Eastern Railway, to have assisted him in disposing of some of the gold. The particular charge upon which Saward and Anderson were now examined was in reference to two forged cheques, presented at the Messrs. Hankeys on the 16th of August—one of £50 and one for £100.

Henry Atwell, a convict under sentence of transportation for life, was introduced into the witness box, and (having been frequently implicated in them) described the means by which these and other cheques were forged and uttered. Saward's plan of operations was to possess himself, in the first instance, by aid of friendly burglars or pickpockets, of as many blank cheque-books as he could procure; the next step was to obtain the signature of the owners; the third, to simulate them; the fourth, to fill up the drafts for such sums as should satisfy his cupidity and that of his accomplices, without exciting the suspicion of the banks; and the fifth, to divide the spoil on the principle of awarding the largest portion of cash to the shareholder or partner who had taken the most prominent part in the risk. This was the general outline. The details, of course, of each successive case varied. A very usual description of "business" with the firm (which seems to have comprised some five or six persons) was, after having completed the forgery of one or more cheques, to hire furnished apartments for a week, then to go out into the highways and pick up some unsuspecting youth to act as bearer of the cheques to the banks, giving him directions to bring back the proceeds to the newly-hired rooms, which were of course immediately evacuated when the object of their hirers had been thus accomplished.

Anderson seems to have been chiefly employed in this part of the scheme, and in order to keep it up, wore an infinite assortment of wigs, whiskers, and other disguises. It was in the department of another of the firm to act as follower to the bearer of the cheque. The duty of this follower (Atwell himself in most cases) was to enter the bank "promiscuously," at the same time as the messenger, and to watch operations at the counter; in case of failure, to decamp instantly, in order to warn the associates who were in waiting; in case of success, to follow the messenger back to his employers. This last precaution was sometimes necessary. On one occasion a freshly-caught messenger, who had been despatched by the confederates from the Eastern Counties Railway to Barclay's Bank, having got his cheque cashed, was observed by Mr. Atwell, who acted as watcher, to be returning to Shoreditch by the somewhat indirect route of London Bridge. A tap on the shoulder from Atwell, and a reminder that "a gentleman was waiting for him at the Eastern Counties," restored the truant to a sudden recollection that he had mistaken his way. Indeed so well were the measures of the company taken in this respect, that they do not appear to have met with a single loss from the retributive rascality of the agents, who ran the risk of becoming their victims.

Another device of the confederacy was when they had got possession of blank cheques to obtain a genuine signature, from which to commit forgeries. An instance of this kind the witness Atwell narrated as follows:—"A gentleman connected with the firm had stolen from Mr. Turner, a solicitor, a quantity of blank drafts on Gosling and Co.; the point was to get Turner to fill up a cheque in order that these blanks might be turned into gold. The contrivance adopted was this. The name of Hesp was assumed for the nonce by one of the confederates, and attached to an I O U for some thirty odd pounds. Atwell took this I O U to Mr. Turner's office, directing him to write a lawyer's letter for the amount. The requisite sum was meanwhile furnished to the pretended Hesp, the lawyer's letter was sent to the indicated address, and in due course the £30, which had been lodged for the purpose by another of the confederates, was paid in to the lawyer's office. In a day or two Atwell called there to receive it, trusting that Mr. Turner would write a cheque for the amount. So ingeniously was this plot laid that Atwell had dealt with Mr. Turner under the name of Mr. W. Hunter, in order that Mr. Turner, by making the cheque payable in that name, might betray the manner in which he wrote the syllable 'Hun,' so as the better to enable the forgers to fill up the blank cheques for hundreds. All this ingenuity, however, was on this first occasion thrown away. The clerk of Mr. Turner paid him in cash; and the whole process had to be repeated again, with a second I O U for a larger sum, lodged in the same way and taken out by the same party. This second time the ruse succeeded, and the blank drafts on 'Goslings' were filled up to a very large amount."

Such were the devices to which Atwell confessed in his evidence at the Mansion House; and with slight variation they were used in a large number of cases, over a considerable number of years, and to very large amounts. Sometimes the confederates would utter two or three cheques in one day, and they aimed at sums varying from ten to a thousand pounds. After hearing Atwell's evidence, which we have condensed above, the prisoners were remanded.

POLICE.

THE CITY UNION FRAUDS.—John Paul has been brought up at the Mansion House, to meet the charge of frauds on the City of London Union.

Mr. Humphrey, for the prosecution, said he would have asked for a remand in order to investigate the numerous allegations to be charged against the prisoner, but he would on this occasion advance only two cases. One was the stealing of a cheque for £378 15s. 6d., given to the prisoner on the 2nd of September to pay to Messrs. Kingsford, which, instead of doing so, he paid to his own private account at the London Bank, on the 15th of November, with other money; and on the ticket given therewith he entered the identical sum in his own handwriting. The prisoner admitted to Mr. Russell (chief clerk to the guardians) that he had applied the money to his own use, and Mr. Russell, through a benevolent feeling, paid the money to Messrs. Kingsford out of his own pocket. The other case was the forging of a receipt given by the prisoner on the 19th of November last to Mr. Woodward, collector of the poor-rates, of the parish of St. Andrew Undershaft. Mr. Woodward had, up to November 18, paid several sums, amounting to £20, and on the 19th he gave the prisoner £20 more, making £40, which the prisoner ought to have paid to Messrs. Smith, Payne and Co., bankers to the City of London Union. The prisoner promised to give Mr. Woodward the receipt next day, but the receipt which he gave was a forgery. The following witnesses were called:—

Mr. Stephens H. Heath, a guardian of the City of London Union, said he attended the board on the 2nd of September last, when the cheque (produced) for £378 15s. 6d., was drawn and given to the prisoner to be paid to Messrs. Kingsford; witness did not see that cheque again till he found it, on the 17th ult., in a desk in the prisoner's office. The prisoner had absconded himself from the office that afternoon.

Mr. J. R. Glanville, clerk in the Bank of London, said the prisoner kept a private account there. On the 13th of September he paid witness a cheque for £378 15s. 6d., but witness cannot identify it as being the cheque now produced; but the cheque produced passed through the Bank of London, and the ticket in the prisoner's handwriting included the item of this sum.

Mr. John Thomas Russell, clerk of the City of London Union, said: The cheque produced is countersigned by me. On the 27th November I asked Paul for Kingsford's receipt, and found that the cheque had been cashed on the 13th November. Paul hesitated about it, and I went again to the banker's book, and, finding that it was correct, I told him so. He then said, "It is useless deceiving you; I have used the money." I then paid the money to Mr. Kingsford out of my own pocket.

Mr. R. Woodward, collector of poor-rates for St. Andrew Undershaft, said: Up to and including the 18th November I paid Paul £20, which he was to pay to the bankers of the City of London Union to the credit of my parish, and next day he gave me the receipt produced.

Mr. E. S. Crosser, cashier to Smith, Payne, & Co., bankers, deposed that he had not received the £200 on account of the City of London Union. The signature to the receipt, purporting to be witness's, is a forgery. The case was then remanded.

A THIEF OR NO?—Charles Wright, who described himself as a dog-fancier, was charged at Marlborough Street Police Court, with attempting to steal a valuable dog, the property of Mr. Northam Gray, Cheapside.

The prosecutor stated that about ten o'clock on the previous night he was in the Palace Rooms, Pall Mall, having at the time a spaniel dog with him, when the prisoner came in and called for some liquor. While he was drinking, witness observed him put his handkerchief to his face with his left hand, while with his right hand he broke off from a lump of meat, which he had secreted in his handkerchief, a large piece, which he slyly threw behind him. Witness kept his eye upon the prisoner, who, as soon as he saw the dog had eaten the meat, walked towards the door followed by the dog. Prosecutor at once called his attention to the fact that he did not want him to feed his dog, and requested him to let it alone. The prisoner, seeing his attempt failed, then became very abusive. Prosecutor endeavored to avoid an altercation, but was obliged to give the prisoner into custody. At the station house he was searched, and a large piece of prepared liver, such as is used by dog stealers, was found upon him.

The prisoner, in defence, said he had no idea of stealing the gentleman's dog, and if he did use any bad language, why, he was "werry" sorry for it.

Mr. Bingham said he had no doubt on his mind the prisoner intended to steal the dog, but, fortunately for himself, his design was frustrated; and had it not been for his foul abuse of the prosecutor, he would not have been locked up at all. The prisoner had had a narrow escape, and he (Mr. Bingham) would caution him not to make a second appearance before him.

The prisoner was therefore discharged.

THE SAMARITAN INSTITUTION.—The charges against Mr. Barber, secretary of this institution, have been again before the Magistrates, but without arriving at a satisfactory conclusion. The charge of "appropriating" the beer, &c., given by various tradesmen for the relief of the poor, was sustained by the evidence of one or two people who dined at the Institution on Christmas Day, 1855, and who declared that they had no beer. For the defence, it was sought to be shown, on the evidence of another poor houseless creature, that the other witnesses, her companions, had perjured themselves, on the understanding that they were to get a half-crown each from Mr. Potter, who instituted these proceedings against the Society. This witness declared that beer was served to her on Christmas Day, of 1855, and to everyone else in the room. The evidence altogether was of the most suspicious character, especially as, from the testimony of this last witness, Mr. Barber had also contemplated making presents of a half-crown and a pair of boots to those who had a good memory for the beer. The inquiry was again adjourned.

THE GREAT NORTHERN FRAUDS.—FINAL COMMITMENT OF REDPATH AND KENT.—Leopold Redpath, and William Charles Comyns Kent, who stand charged with having committed the enormous frauds on the Great Northern Railway, were on Friday week again placed at the bar of the Clerkenwell Police Court. The prisoners, who said that they should reserve their defence, were fully committed to Newgate for trial. The prisoner Redpath is committed on six distinct cases of forgery and one of fraud, and Kent is charged with being concerned with Redpath in four cases of forgery.

CHINESE EMIGRATION.—Captain Seymour, the master of the ship Duke of Portland, appeared before Mr. Selfe the other day to answer a demand made upon him by a seaman, named Smith, who claimed a balance of £40 for his services on a voyage from Hong Kong to Santa Cruz, the Havannah, and London. The defence set up was that the complainant had disabled himself from service by disease. But, in reply, it was alleged that if there had been proper medicines on board, the seaman might have been cured; and that he had three applied for his discharge at Havannah without obtaining it. Captain Seymour said yellow fever was raging on shore, so that it would have been killing the man to allow him to unship himself. On looking over the log book, Mr. Selfe, the magistrate, made the horrible discovery that 132 Chinese taken on board at Hong Kong had died, before reaching Havannah, of "fever" and "exhaustion." The traffic in these poor Chinese was horrible, and should be looked into by the Government. Mr. Selfe declined allowing Smith wages for the time he was off duty, but cancelled half the Captain's deductions, making an order for £22, without costs.

THE DRAMA IN DIFFICULTIES.—Thomas Cottrell, Seina Cottrell, Christina Belasco, William Gannon, William Punter, William Morrell, Solomon Belasco, George Riley, William Weaver, John Thomas, Thomas Shine, John Walters, and William Leigh, were charged at Bow Street before Mr. Henry, the first time with taking part in an unlicensed theatrical performance, and the latter four with being present.

Mr. Hannant, superintendent of the E division of police, stated that at about eight o'clock in the evening he went to No. 167, Holborn, accompanied by several constables. On entering he found a stage fitted up, on which the first eight prisoners were performing. They were dressed in character. For the accommodation of the audience there were seventeen seats, for twelve persons each. The audience consisted of girls and boys of the lowest description, the latter predominating.

Policeman Durgan, said that he went to the theatre in plain clothes. He paid a penny for admission. A juvenile performance was then going on, in which a number of boys stood on the stage eating rolls and treacle with their hands tied. This being over, the stage was arranged with scenery, and the performers dressed in character. The piece was the pantomime of "Blue Beard." Witness knew it was a pantomime because at a certain part of the performance Christina Belasco, who represented a fairy, came on the stage and made a speech in rhyme to the effect that this was the best pantomime for the year 1857. Then followed a dance, after which the fairy queen again presented herself, and directed the transformation. The transformation had just taken place when the police entered, and the prisoners were taken into custody.

Inspector Checkley, of the E division, said that he visited the house in question, by order of the Superintendent, with ten men. Seeing what performances were going on, he jumped on the stage, and gave directions to the constables to take the prisoners into custody, and remove them to the station-house. Thomas Cottrell said: "For God's sake, don't take that woman! she is my wife; and I am the sole manager of this place." Witness said: "This is an unlicensed theatre, and I shall take the whole of you into custody." He also ordered the constables to remove the money-box, which contained 15s. 4d. in copper, 6s. 1d. in silver, and a number of checks, in the possession of Walters, who acted as money-taker.

Cottrell, being asked if he had anything to say, made some unintelligible reply, and it was then discovered that he was intoxicated, upon which the Magistrate adjourned the case to a later hour. Cottrell then managed to explain that he was not aware he was infringing the law. He had done his utmost to comply with its provisions. He had instructed his people to confine themselves to "dancing and ballet"—not to speak a word, and if they had done so it was without his knowledge.

The Magistrate, after commenting on the pernicious tendency of these exhibitions, condemned Cottrell to a fine of £20, or committal for one month. Leigh, who had evidently shined in the direction of the proceedings, was fined 40s., or fourteen days imprisonment. The others were required to enter into recognisances for £10 to appear in a fortnight, when, if they did not repeat the offence, no penalty would be inflicted.

FORGERY.—Henry Philip Arthy, described as a surgeon and represented to be most respectably connected, was indicted, on remand from last session, for forgery; and also on several indictments for obtaining jewellery and other articles from various tradesmen. The prisoner, although only twenty years of age, has gained considerable notoriety as a fast man under various names, and amongst others, that of Lord John Hay. The prisoner pleaded guilty to the charge of misdemeanour, but Not Guilty to the charge of forgery. Mr. Metcalfe, who appeared for the prisoner, said that, though one of the cases certainly involved a question of forgery, it was not of a commercial character, but giving a fictitious cheque, merely to obtain a position. His friends, who were of the highest respectability, were most anxious that the prisoner should leave this country, and at the termination of any term of imprisonment the Court might think proper to inflict, they would undertake he should be sent out to Australia, and under those circumstances he hoped the Court would think sufficient punishment might be inflicted by the course pursued. The prisoner was then sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment. The Recorder ordered the property obtained from the prosecutors and pledged to be delivered up, the friends of the prisoner undertaking to return a ring pledged, obtained by the prisoner from a soldier returned from the Crimea.

A SONG FROM THE DOCK.—Caroline McCarthy, a ticket-of-leave woman, and George Hayman, a marine, were recently indicted for stealing a silver watch and guard, the property of Edward Giles. It appeared that, on the 20th of December last, the prosecutor met the female prisoner in Granby Street, Plymouth. She caught him tightly round the waist and took the watch from his pocket. It was afterwards discovered that the prisoner Hayman sold the watch for £3. The jury having returned a verdict of Guilty, the Recorder, in sentencing the prisoners, observed that McCarthy had been transported for a similar offence for seven years, and had obtained a ticket-of-leave, but it appeared to produce no effect upon her, and he should therefore sentence her to fourteen years' transportation. In reference to Hayman, he would have time to reflect on his position, and on his release he would then make a good member of society. The prisoner McCarthy, who is a daring-looking woman and of robust form, extended her arms and said, addressing the Recorder, "I am very much obliged to you for the sentence you have passed upon me. I have now a chance of going abroad, and I shall have an opportunity of doing better than if I had stopped at home. Fortune smiles on the bad, and I am happy I am going out of the country. Many hundreds I have robbed, and if I should return many hundreds I shall rob again." She then left the dock singing very loudly.

MISAPPROPRIATION BY A COUNTY MAGISTRATE.—At a petty sessions held last week at Clifton, William Hollis, Esq., who has been for many years a justice of peace for the county, and who, until the last few years, took his seat on the bench, appeared to a summons, charging him with misapplying the funds of the Shirenewton United Friendly Society, of which he was trustee, until lately removed from office. Upon the information being read over, Mr. Hollis pleaded guilty to the charge contained in it, and he was ordered by the magistrates to refund the amount, £56 5s. 4d., together with a penalty of £10, and 8s. 6d. costs, and in default of payment, to be committed to the House of Correction at Usk, and there be kept to hard labour for six weeks.

CHARGE OF FRAUD AGAINST A MERCHANT.—On Saturday, at Sheffield, a flax merchant of Selby, named William James Goulton, and his wife, were charged with committing a fraud upon the Midland Railway Company, by riding from Nottingham to Mashborough, in one of the Company's carriages without tickets. The defendants pleaded guilty to the charge of attempting to defraud, and the magistrate convicted them in the full penalty, viz., 40s. and costs.

EMBEZZLEMENT BY COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.—William Dewell, a commercial traveller in the service Mr. W. Clough, corndeler, of Bromley, near Leeds, has been committed for trial for embezzling various sums amounting in the whole to about £400.—On the same day Thomas Cullingworth, traveller to Mr. String, spirit-merchant, Huddersfield, was charged with embezzling three boxes of cigars. The prisoner wrote to his employer to forward him three boxes of cigars on the order and to the account of Mr. M'Crystal, of Woodhouse. They were duly forwarded to Cullingworth, who sent them to be pawned, after offering them in sale to Mr. M'Crystal, who, it appeared, had never ordered them. Cullingworth was committed for trial.

FORGERY AND EMBEZZLEMENT ON A RAILWAY COMPANY.—Henry Autey, aged 30, clerk in the office of Mr. Martin Cawood, Secretary of the Leeds, Bradford, and Halifax Junction Railway, was charged at Leeds, on Saturday, with purloining three dividend warrants from the office of the Company, and forging the name of Mr. Lister, of Beamsley Hall, near Skipton, to these warrants. Mr. Lister, who is a shareholder in the Company, has been in Canada and the United States; and, on his return in December, he wrote to Mr. Cawood, stating that he had not received either of the last three quarterly dividends. Mr. Cawood instituted inquiries and found that the warrants had been duly made out by himself to be forwarded to Mr. Lister, and that they had been paid. On further inquiries it was ascertained that the whole of these warrants bore Mr. Lister's name, and had been paid in the first instance to Mr. Scott, jeweller,

Lowerhead Row, Leeds, by whom they were paid away. Mr. Scott described the prisoner as the person who had paid him the warrants, and at the same time represented himself as Mr. Lister. Mr. Cawood at once obtained a warrant for the prisoner's apprehension; he was taken into custody, and upon investigation before the magistrate committed for trial.

THE STAFFORD MURDER.—William Graham has been fully committed for trial for the wilful murder of Thomas Simpson. Henry and Joseph Graham, the other prisoners, were discharged, but immediately afterwards Henry Graham, the eldest brother, was brought up on the charge of having been an accomplice of the murderer after the fact, and also committed for trial.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

NOTWITHSTANDING that the supply of money for discount purposes has been tolerably excessive since we last wrote, the demand for it has been extensive; and in Lombard Street the rates have rather advanced—the lowest quotation for the best paper having been 6 per cent. The late excessive imports of gold from Australia have been almost wholly purchased on account of the Bank of France, and nearly £200,000 in gold has been withdrawn from the Bank of England to purchase silver on the Continent, although the latest advices from China bring drooping exchanges. The last packet for India took out £400,000, and it is understood that about a similar amount will be forwarded next month. Steady remittances of both gold and silver continue to be received from the country—the total imports having been little short of £200,000, including nearly one million dollars from Mexico.

Two causes have presented themselves to check the late steady upward movement in the value of national stocks, viz. the fact that a Swiss loan of £4,000,000 will be shortly at issue, and the statement to the effect that Turkey will become a borrower of £10,000,000 sterling, under the auspices of a proposed National Bank. This institution has been undertaken chiefly by English capitalists, consequently the greater portion of the above amount will be drawn from this country. From France, we learn that monetary affairs are still in an unsatisfactory state. In Germany, however, money is becoming somewhat cheaper. The dividends are now becoming payable upon our Three per Cents, and we shall, consequently, have an increased amount of capital in the market for discount purposes.

Exchequer bills have somewhat improved, they having been dealt in at 4s. premium. This is a satisfactory feature; still, we entertain great doubts whether money will be cheap during the present year.

The 3 per Cent. Consols, for account, have been done at 94½; for February 94½; the new 3 per Cents, 94½; and the Reduced, 94½. Bank stock, 216½ to 218. India bonds, 2s. to 3s. prem.; Exchequer bonds, 98½.

Most foreign bonds have met a dull market, and previous rates have been with difficulty supported. Brazilian 5 per cents have been 10½; ditto, small, 10½; ditto, 4½ per cents, 8½; Chilean 5 per cents, 10½; Danish 5 per cents, 10½; Russian 4½ per cents, 9½; ditto, small, 9½; Sardinian 5 per cents, 8½; Spanish Certificates, 6 per cent, 9½; Swedish 8½; Turkish 6 per cents, 9½; French 4½ per cents, 9½; and Dutch 2½ per cents, 65.

Joint-stock bank shares have been tolerably active, as follows:—City, 70; London Chartered of Australia, 18½; ditto, new, 18; London and Westminster, 49½; Oriental, 28½; Ottoman, 13½; Union of Australia, 60½; Union of London, 27½; Western of London, 43½. Most miscellaneous securities have been in moderate request. Australian Agricultural, 2½; Canadian Pacific, 1½; New York and Government, 6 per cents, 110½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 6½; National Discount, 6; North of Europe Steam, 14½; Peel River Land and Mineral, 2½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 67½; ditto new, 15; Southampton Docks, 47½. Most railway shares have been inactive. In the general quotations, however, no material change has taken place. Bristol and Exeter have realised 93; Caledonian, 92; Chester and Holyhead, 93; Eastern Counties, 91; East Lancashire, 94; Great Northern, 92½; Great Western, 89½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 97½; London and Blackwall, 7½; London and Brighton, 112; London and Northampton, 107; London and South-Western, 107; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 34½; Midland, 83½; ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 54; North British, 49½; North-Eastern, Berwick, 83; North-Western, 7½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 29½; Great North-Eastern, Aberdeen stock, 25½; Shropshire Union, 50; South Devon, 18½; South-Eastern, 74½; Scotch Wreath, 50½; Michigan Central, 93; New York and Erie bonds, 186½, 80½; ditto, 187½, 82; Grand Trunk of Canada, 54½; ditto 6 per cent debentures, 83½; Great Western of Canada, 25½; ditto new, 10½.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The present week's arrivals of English wheat, coastwise and by railway, have been very moderate, and in but small quantities. For most kinds the demand has ruled steadily, at full rates of currency. Full average supplies of foreign wheat have been brought forward. American supplies have been pressed for sale on rather easier terms; but the value of other kinds has been supported. Floating cargoes of grain have realised very full prices. Fine milling barley has sold briskly at a further advance of 1s. per quarter, and the value of other qualities has been supported. The malt trade has continued steady, on former terms. There has been a fair inquiry for oats, at previous rates. Beans, peas, and flour have been in improved request, at full prices.

MEAT.—The market has been quiet, and the quality of both beasts and sheep, a decided improvement has taken place. Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.; mutton, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 2d. per 8lbs. to sink the offal.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—These markets are fairly supplied, and business is moderate. The following are the prices:—Beef, from 3s. to 5s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. by the carcase.

TEA.—Although there is less excitement in our market, speculative buyers are still coming forward, and several parcels of common teas have realised 1½ per lb. The quality of the teas is as good as last week. Congou, 1½ to 1½; Oolong, 1½ to 1½; Oolong, 1½ to 1½; Souchong, 9d. to 2s. 6d.; Fowley Pekoe, 1s. 5d. to 3s. 6d.; Scented Caper, 1s. 1d. to 2s.; Orange Pekoe, 1½ to 1s. 4d.; Scented Orange Pekoe, 1s. 4d. to 2s.; Twankay, 6d. to 1s. 2d.; Hyson skin, 6d. to 1s. 2d.; Hyson, 2d. to 3s. 6d.; Young Hyson, 6d. to 2s. 4d.; Imperial, 1½ to 2s. 4d.; Gunpowder, 9d. to 3s. 6d.; Assam, 1s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. per lb.

SUGAR.—The public market has re-opened somewhat briskly, and in some instances the quotations of raw sugar have risen 1s. per cwt. The following are the present rates:—Raw sugar, 4s. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, gray and yellow, good to fine, 4s. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, low to middling, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; ditto, brown, soft and dry, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; Bengal, white, good to fine, 50s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, low to middling, 4s. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, yellow, good to fine, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; ditto, low to middling, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; ditto, brown, good dry, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; ditto, low, soft, and Khur, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; ditto, strong and crystallised white, 5s. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, yellow, 4s. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, brown, 4s. to 5s. 4d.; Madras, strong and crystallised yellow and white, 4s. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, native, 4s. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, low to middling, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; ditto, brown, soft and dry, 3s. to 4s. 6d.; China, white, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, yellow, 4s. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, brown, 3s. to 4s. 6d.; Java, gray and white, 50s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; ditto, brown and yellow, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; Manila, low to good clayed, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; ditto, unclayed, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; Siam, white, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; ditto, brown and yellow, 4s. to 5s. 4d. per cwt. Refined sugars move off slowly. Low to fine, 6s. 6d. to 6s.; and English crushed, for export, 4s. to 4s. 6d. per cwt.

MOLASSES.—The stock is still very limited, and the demand is steady, at full prices.

COPPER.—Our market is very firm, and the quotations are well supported. Good old native Ceylon is selling at 53s. per cwt. The consumption of coffee, last year, was 15,000 tons, and the exports were 13,000 ditto. The imports amounted to 25,000 tons.

COFFEE.—We have to report a moderate demand for this article, at the late improvement in value. The finest red Trinidad cannot be purchased under 74s. per cwt.

RICE.—Transactions to a moderate extent have been reported at last week's quotations. The stock is about 54,000 tons, against 15,000 tons last year, 5,400 ditto, and 15,000 ditto, in 1855.

PROCESSED BUTTER.—Fine parcels of butter are in fair request, at full prices. Inferior kinds are dull, but without leading to any notable change in value. We have only a limited demand for bacon, hams, and lard, at barely late rates.

HEMP AND FLAX.—There is a moderate inquiry for Baltic hemp, at full previous rates. Riga hemp, 43s. to 43s. 7½; outshot, 42s. to 42s. 7½; half-crown, 43s. to 43s. 7½; and Rhine, 43s. to 43s. 7½ per ton. Flax supports last week's currency, but the business doing in it is limited.

SEEDS.—Rum moves off steadily. Proof Leewards is worth 2s. 5d. to 2s. 6d. per gallon. Stock, 3s. 6d. hds. and puns. Brandy is dearer—the finest parcels being worth 12s. 6d. per gallon. Malt spirit, 11s. 2d. proof; Geneva, 3s. 1s. 4d. per gallon. Large quantities of raw spirit still continue to be shipped to the Continent.

SKIN.—Our market is firm, but we have no advance to notice in prices.

LARD.—All kinds are steady, on former terms.

SALTPETRE.—A few parcels of fine Bengal have realised 51s. per cwt. Other kinds are very dull. At this time last year, prices were 31s. to 38s. 6d. per cwt.

NITRATE OF SODA.—The demand is heavy, at 17s. 3d. to 17s. 9d. per cwt.

METALS.—Scotch pig iron is firm, at 7s. to 7s. 6d. cash at Glasgow. Spelter moves off steadily, at £28 10s. to £28 15s. per ton, on the spot. Tin is held at full former prices. Banca, 144s.; Straits, 145s. Lead, copper, and steel support former terms.

FRUIT.—The amount of business doing in this market is very moderate; nevertheless, prices are mostly supported.

HOPS.—The show of samples is by no means extensive. For most kinds of hops, the demand is steady, at full quotations. Mid and East Kent pockets, 43s. to 45s. 1s.; Wexford ditto, 43s. to 45s. 1s.; Sussex, 43s. to 45s. 1s. per cwt.

POTATOES.—The supplies are moderate, and a steady business is doing, at from 43s. 10s. to 46s. per ton.

OLIVE.—Lined oil, on the spot, is selling at 43s. 10s. to 43s. per ton. Most other oils are dull. Pale seed, 50s. to 50s. 10s.; yellow, 48s. to 48s. 10s.; rapeseed, 48s. to 48s. 10s.; head matter, 47s. to 47s. 10s.; colza, 49s. 10s. to 50s.; Southern, 44s. to 45s. 10s.; olive (Gallipoli), 43s. to 45s. 10s.; palm, 44s. to 44s. 10s. Turpentine is dull, and drooping.

TALLOW.—The demand is limited, and prices are rather lower. Y.C.O. on the spot, 58s. 3d. to 58s. 10d. per cwt. Tallow, 55s. to 56s. 10d.; rough fat, 3s. 2d. per 8lbs. The stock of tallow is 13,954 casks, against 19,259 in 1856; 36,105 in 1855; and 43,191 in 1854.

COALS.—Tandfield Moor, 14s. 9d.; Huddell, 17s.; Eden Main, 18s.; Hutton, 18s. 3d.; Lambton, 18s. 9d.; Stewart, 19s. 3d.; South Hetton, 19s.; Tees, 19s. 3d.; Braddyl's, 18s. per ton.

LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.—JAMES VAN RAALTE, jun., Gloucester Terrace, Holborn, importer of French goods—JOSIAS CHARLES HERMAN PREND, West Street, Finsbury, boarding-house keeper—WILLIAM BAKER, Tichborne Street, Haymarket, licensed victualler—JOHN KENNARD, Little Queen Street, Holborn, ironmonger—JOHN ADAM, Euston Place, New Road, merchant—GEORGE NATHANIEL SOLOMON, Sutherland Street, Walworth, wine merchant—THOMAS LAWRENCE, Lime Street, merchant—JOHN BROWN, Westborough, wine merchant—JOHN VENABLE, ARTHUR MANN, and HENRY GRASSY, Hursdon, furniture manufacturers—WILLIAM POTTER, Ellerburn, Yorkshire, silversmith—JOHN ALLEN, Liverpool, tailor—DANIEL SAGAR, Stonefield Mill, near Haslington, Lancashire, manufacturer—JOHN HALL, Oakenshaw, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer.

SCOTCH SETTLEMENTS.—A. W. CROCKFORD, Edinburgh doctor—W. C. GALLERIE, Glasgow, paint manufacturer.

BANKRUPTS.—ROBERT EDWARDS, Thornby, Cambridge-shire, grocer—THOMAS ROBERT, Alford, Leicestershire, grocer—THOMAS STREET, Marlton and Horsham, Leicestershire, miller—NATHANIEL LEVY, Church Lane, White-chapel, butcher—SAMUEL MUDMAN, Northampton, shoe manufacturer—EDWARD WOOD, 10, St. John's Row, St. Luke's, hawthorn ree manufacturer—JOHN HENRY STEVENS, 10, White Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, engraver—WILLIAM KIMBALL, Bridge Road, Lambeth, linendraper—EDWARD POLLACK, Fildgate Street, Middlesex, sugar refiner—JOHN RICHARD DAMSON, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, hotel keeper.

REFORM FREEHOLD LAND AND BUILDING SOCIETY.—The Eleventh Quarterly Meeting of the Members will be held at the Society's Office, 147, Cheapside, on Thursday, the 22nd instant, at One o'clock in the day, to receive the report of the progress of the Society.

Deposits Bank open every day, and Interest on Deposits paid at 5 per Cent.—1st January, 1857.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, SHOREDITCH.—The best Pantomime is at the Standard; the Transformation Scene the most costly piece of machinery witnessed. Every evening during the week, to commence with the Pantomime HICKEDY PICKEDY, MY BLACK HEN; or, HARRY QUINCY, KING WINTER AND QUEEN SPRING.—Boxes, 3s. 2d. 6d., 1s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. Stalls, 1s., 6d., 4d., 2d., and 1d.

REGENT GALLERY, 69, QUADRANT. GENERAL TOM THUMB HAS ARRIVED. THREE LEVES DAILY.

PARTICULAR NOTICE.—Ladies and Families who can conveniently attend the early Morning Leves (from 11 till 1 o'clock) will incur much less inconvenience from the crowd than by visiting the later Leves.

Hours of Exhibition, from 11 to 1; 3 till 5; and 7 till 9 o'clock. Admission to Promenade, Area, and Gallery, without regard to age, 1s.; Reserved Stalls, 2s.; Children, 1s.; Drawing room Seats, 3s.; Children, 1s. 6d.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.—This celebrated Old Irish Whisky is highly recommended as the most delicious and wholesome spirit, either for mixing or for medicinal purposes. It is perfectly pure, very mild, and, being imbued with age, is free from those fiery or heating qualities so much objected to in other spirits. Can be obtained in sealed bottles, 3s. 6d. each, at all the respectable retail houses in London and its vicinity, from the appointed agents in the principal towns in England; or, whole sale, from KINAHAN, SONS, and SMYTH, 9, Great Windmill Street, Haymarket.

BORDEAUX BRANDY, Pale or Brown, equal to the finest Cognac brands. One Dozen Cases as imported at 45s., delivered to all the railway stations, on receipt of Post-Office Order, or other remittance to Messrs. J. P. FINE, Post-Office, to the Consignees, W. J. HOLLENDER and SONS, Wine and Spirit Importers, Halkin Wharf, Pimlico.

HALF-A-CROWN A POUND is now the price of good CONGOU TEA, in 6lb. bags, at the warehouses of the East India Tea Company. Good Coffee in the berry, at 1s. per lb.—J. Great St. Helen's, City.

WHY GIVE MORE?—EXCELLENT TEAS.—Black, Green, and Mixed, are now on Sale, for Family use, at 2s. 10d. per lb., at Newsum and Co's Original Tea Warehouse, 50, Borough.—Established a. d. 1745.

EPPS'S COCOA.—This excellent Preparation is supplied in 1lb. and ½lb. packets, 1s. 6d. and 9d. 7½lb. in canister, 10s. 6d. JAMES EPPS, Homoeopathic Chemist, 170, Piccadilly, 82 Old Broad Street, City, and 112, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury.

ROBINSON'S PATENT GROATS, for more than 30 years have been held in constant and increasing public estimation as the purest farina of the oat, and as the best and most valuable preparation for making a pure and delicious GRUEL, which forms a light and nutritious supper for the aged, a popular recipe for colds and influenza, is of general use in the sick chamber, and alternately with the Patent Barley, is an excellent food for infants and children.

Prepared only by the Patentee, ROBINSON, BELLVILLE, and Co., Purveyors to the Queen, 64, Red Lion Street, Holborn, London. Sold by all respectable Grocers, Druggists, and others in town and country, in packets of 6d. and 1s

Witnessed by me at 110, Fleet Street, in the Parish and City aforesaid.—SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1837.